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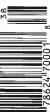
CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 19, 1994 \$3.50

Maclean's

BAD BLOOD?

**IS CANADA'S SUPPLY
REALLY SAFE?**





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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE
SEPTEMBER 19, 1994 VOL. 127 NO. 31
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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE
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62 Tales of outcasts, eccentrics and misfits—characters who have lost their way home and are grappling to find their bearings—dominate the 21 Canadian features being presented at this year's Toronto International Film Festival. They were among the 256 movies on display at the 10-day event.

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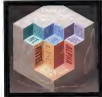
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A frying pan with a wooden handle is placed on a gas stove. Inside the pan, there are several ingredients: a whole red tomato, a sliced mushroom, a green pepper, and some leafy green vegetables. The stove is lit, and a blue flame is visible beneath the pan.

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AN AMERICAN VIEW



Baseball's joint venture in duncery

BY FRED BRUENING

Across the frozen river from the mighty towers of Manhattan lies the ancient burg of Hoboken, N.J., and at the corner of what is now known as Washington Street there is a plaque bearing the names of the game's originators. The marker notes that on June 13, 1848, a baseball "match" between the "Knickerbockers" and the "New Yorks" was played on this site, and thus the legend of the game's origin is established. It is generally conceded that what took place there was not actually baseball.

Now onto the scene comes a fellow named Walter Steeds, who says he lives in the local housing project. When asked why he worried about the strike that has wrecked baseball from season to season and all of evil baseball in a tenement flat, Walter says, no, not really, to tell you the truth, he doesn't care much about the sport. "It's no fun," says Walter Steeds, age 14. "You have to stand out in the sun. You could catch a stroke." Later, another, and young Walt, he was starting classes over at the high school and intended to devote himself to a more civilized and less exhausting activity: football.

So away 150 years after what Hoboken men say that "started my country" baseball game, we have Walter Steeds and—if worst reports are true—millions of other kids deciding that the national pastime is boring and that they prefer football, where de-capitalism is always a possibility (and last strike, too, Walter better believe it, or this other game, soccer, which makes roller derby look intelligent, or more hours in front of the computer enjoying the good, clean fun of *Mortal Kombat*).

This previous drift of American youth from the game of their ancestors was slowly averted by what the Washington Post says is a major league franchise owner's blue-collar employees—the millionaires, and sports

millionaires, who, on the days they are well paid and able, but still field the ball—decided to call it quits and appear themselves straight into September. While it is technically true that players "strike," the owners, the walking, clearly amounts to a joint venture in duncery, with management slightly ahead, where it comes to reality and greed. These guys—the bosses and their well-heeled personnel—deserve each other, rather to coincide.

Is this just, details of the great disappointment are unimportant except to say the players do not want employers selling loans on pay (for three workers who die? What are we, crazy?), and the owners, who are forever howling about one thing or another (not enough TV, not enough fans, not enough trade from those money-worshipping bondholders), claim they will have to close shop if payroll continues at Las Vegas levels. Nobody has sympathy for the players (average salary is the big league is \$1.6 million), and nobody treats the corporate pinhead who so much as trying to lead every stadium pleader.

A giant talk-out-of-work with baseball is occurring here, and not just on the part of the young Walter Steeds of America. The experts at the newspapers and on airports radio say

fans will come back even if the World Series is scheduled for November at some neutral warm weather site, as one of the brilliant minds behind recently (baseball in November, how could that be?) we have Fourth of July fireworks in February. The whole world is being stood on its head! But it doesn't matter whether the fans troop back to the stands. What matters is that a season already has been ruined by the one-way attempt to shift baseball after Labor Day and that the game's exclusivity its sublime and uniform nature, has been shattered and can never be the same. For this crime against America, the guilty on both sides should pay severely. Take from these seasonally blind golf clubs and tennis rackets! Make them work!

By interference so horribly with the slow and elegant tale flow of the baseball season, owners and players have reduced a nation's cherished annual ceremony to mere entertainment—in one more trivial diversion, of which Americans already have ample surplus. The game itself—its form, its pacing its proportions—will always possess a regal bearing, an integrity that cannot be imitated. Nothing can diminish the majestic sequence of small events that combine to make this such a grand affair for the momentary glory of the pitcher, the sudden release, the twist of the batter's torso, the long arc of the ball, the fielder's pursuit, the body extended, the arm outstretched, the day saved or lost. These charms will endure. But the excitement of the big league—the thrill of the greatest choice, the last allegiance to a team and its players—all that is in deep jeopardy. People may show up at the ball park the way they come around for local wedding matches and amateur track pulls. People show up for anything.

A downpour? We'll see. We'll see if baseball continues more years longer in the cherished, mystical game that somehow helps explicate this peculiar, bipolar country—a nation, like baseball, given so much to moments of mindless inertia as basis of power, greed and accomplishment. While evolution would tell the story of its own progress, a mere athletic endeavor could export its kind.

But baseball is big business these days, and there is no room for sentiment at the bargaining table. Owners have their hour of investment to consider and players, too, their previous contracts. The best? The fans have fallen asleep.

Down the drain is a season of huge profits. Matt Williams of San Francisco might have closed more home runs than Roger Maris. Tony Gwynn of San Diego was hitting near 400 home runs or higher since the New York Yankees were back from disaster. Of all people, the Cleveland Indians were playing like champs! In Montreal, the Expos were proving you could succeed without spending like the club of Kuwait. Kim's all-purpose pitcher, Pedro Martinez, is taking salary caps and arbitrators. By and by, the workers are fasted, Hoboken says is well up the list plaque at Ewings and Washington baseball "seriously repelled?" No more.

Fred Bruening is a writer with *Playboy* in New York.

NORTHERN SHOWDOWN

The Innu of Davis Inlet claim a victory in their fight for a new justice system

Moments of triumph came to even the bleakest of Dives. Last week as a tiny island off Labrador's north-east coast, the fleet of Dives inlet danced in celebration as the flames of a roaring bonfire licked the night sky. Earlier that day, they waited nervously for military helicopters bearing dozens of NATO officers to swoop down on

eastern was fleeing. The next day, after learning that Newfoundland and Ottawa were suspending talks with the Inuit on such vital issues as land claims and the proposed relocation of the community until the court is allowed to return to Davis Inlet, Tugalospekis angrily accused Canada's political leaders of ganging up on the natives. "It's not fair to hold a gun to somebody's head," he declared.

The author of last week's drafts could not have been more fundamentally in Roberto's view: the conflict boils down to the latest question of whether the laws of Davis have to be subject to the same laws and judicial system as all other Canadians—and to the rule of the RCMP, which is the constituted force for Newfoundland. The laws, who recently evicted a prominent court police from their courtroom last December, are demanding that their own justice system for the news (page 32). For them, that is one of their poles to a greater end—exercising more control over their own laws.

Few people anywhere would deny the merit of that dream. These isolated settlements—where temperatures dip as low as -40°C and rarely top 30°C—has become an appalling symbol of the desolation of modern-day

without sewage or running water. If the model demonstrated anything, it is that after decades of despair Davis Inlet's residents are willing to fight for a new future. "At last we are doing something positive instead of just throwing up our hands in defeat," said Kate Rich, a former chief of the Inuit band.

That spirit first flared in the surprise last December, when band members chased an RCMP officer and a judge who handed down several court sentences that the band viewed as excessive. Six youths escaped in the commotion after Rich and other band members stormed into court and handed the judge a letter ordering him out of the community. Another day, arguments and anger over an RCMP

four-wheel-drive vehicle was spotted and 150 lama monks surrounded a cabin sheltering the judge and his officials. Eventually, lama leaders invited the RCMP back to take the escaped prisoners into custody.

But no welcome mat was laid out when Takahashi received an Aug. 26 letter from Roberts announcing that he had authorized the RCMP to do whatever they feel is necessary "to ensure that a judge can hear the 78 cases that have piled up in Davis Inlet since dawn, including the 1990s."

A New
flag g
James
Dennis
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reflects

sentencing a 26-year-old man on a sexual assault charge. The man received a suspended sentence. Ultimately, however, the firm was even more control over everything from charges to sentencing. "We want a system which reflects our values," explained Peter Perreault, president of the firm Natus, "and is able to help the healing process by dealing with the root of our problems."

Neither white police cracking white man's law was not what they had in mind. Calling the promoter's plan "an invasion," the law warned Roberts that civil disobedience loomed if the RCMP tried to remove the crowd.

Def. To strengthen their position, the RCMP ruled that no one but police and court officers could fly within eight kilometers of the settlement.

Some children wailed their anger by vomiting in the RCMP cabin, sobbing girls wailing about Roberts and Premier Clyde Wells and hanging the Newfoundland flag upside down. Adults wailed and fretted, despite the supportive presence of Inuit from other communities who arrived by boat and float plane. When rumors spread that RCMP officers were boarding helicopters bound for Dunes Inlet, band members kicked the landing strip with heavy equipment and barrels to prevent any government aircraft from landing down.

Then, the province blamed Worried about potential bloodshed if the RCMP tried to herd subjects during the military-style operation—and cancelled it altogether when the Maestros contended that they could not guarantee the safety of the judge and his staff. But the Newfoundland police minister did not see the move as a retreat—far from it. Flying to Ottawa late last week, he announced federal

the natives. Also dead *Chaco* does over the long-sought relocation from Davis Inlet to the nearby assisted Labrador community of Sango Bay, which the Inuit say provides better opportunities for hunting and the waste and sewage systems that Davis Inlet needs badly.

According to Roberts, the Jews will have to give ground before Roberts and Ottawa return to the bargaining table. He said talks will resume only if the Jews acknowledge that they are subject to the jurisdiction of the laws of Canada and if they allow the provinces coast to return to Davis later and agree to a mutually acceptable policing agreement with the province. "It is a non-negotiable point," Roberts told *Maclean's*.

"We said to them, 'If you guys want to start fingers crawling again then you will have to play by the rules set out for all Canadians.' Despite that tough talk, the line remained that last week's show-down marked an important first step towards the U.S. Inlet. 'There's a feeling of hope here,' said Rob Rich, 'a growing sense that we can come through this.'"

The naming point, in truth, was an awful night in February, 1981, when six young children died in house fire while their parents were out drinking. The traged

community—and helped them not ultimately rely on the state for services. That new resolve was evident as more than 280 sober townships set large storage—4 for cry, from a box when 99 per cent of adult

...are another matter. Does life in the world's poorest nations last past the gasoline-waffling children who won an unbelieved shock as a fringe reward that they wanted to die, to get high, dozens of young people make up the majority of the settle-ment population, still drain gas from the pipes and while the last drops from the cement's each gas station.

leading process that the town was in a slow one. The community's sadness from the fact that 20 Doms left are now trained as councillor in substance abuse problem. Mostly, perhaps, were the young folk among the adults but work as the of Doms laet repelled the govern. Talakapash got it. "Seeing them made me feel good." In a community marked by despair rather than it was at least one reason to celebrate.

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Back from the edge

A Quebec politician's fight against addiction



BY ANTHONY WILSON SMITH

Almost eight years after what he calls the "end of my nightmare," Gilles Bédard can recall exactly what he did that night and how he felt. Where he was and how he got there, however, is another story. At 5 a.m. on Nov. 13, 1986, he sat alone in a north-end Montreal hotel room, drunk and high after eight hours of drinking whisky and snorting cocaine, wondering what excuse he could give for not showing up in another hour to host his morning radio show. A strip dancer standing next door had just given him his last line of cocaine. He accepted that, but when she offered him her card, the then-39-year-old Bédard was, he said, "too out of it" to comply. It was another two-year night for the man who had

become, after the 1981 provincial election, the youngest member of the National Assembly. Then, he was known alternately as the "rock-and-roll politician" and the Parti Québécois's "young wolf," and regarded by political allies and foes alike as one of Quebec's most promising and charismatic politicians. But on that night in 1986, he recalled later, "I felt like a trapped animal, alone in my hair."

Early this week, Bédard will crack what he proudly calls "a most important anniversary" seven years and 10 months of sobriety. For a renowned substance abuser being one day at a time, a month of recovery is cause for celebration. But that Sept. 12 anniversary has other significance for Bédard; he was hoping to celebrate—with friends and lots of soda

water—his return to the National Assembly as the Parti Québécois MNA for rural Northern riding in the Quebec election. That would require the circle for a politician and renowned activist whose first bout of cocaine came on the night of his election victory in 1981. Since then, there has been his self-described "descent into hell," and his incursions—since he climbed back out—in bestselling author and host of several radio and television programs.

But most important, says Bédard, is his emergence as role model to Quebec's troubled youth through his work as director of one of the province's most successful drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres. Bédard has been the chief administrator at the privately run Fondation du Nouveau Point de Vue as he risks for the past 10 years, at any one time, it holds up to 45 patients who stay there for 28 days. For those who can pay, it is \$2,500; under rehabilitation programs in the United States can cost eight times that. But most of the underprivileged young who end up much of the centre's clientele are admitted free. Sixty per cent of the annual \$1.5-million budget is paid for by grants; donors, while the rest comes from the federal and provincial governments. Sadly, Bédard says, there is always a waiting list.

If elected, Bédard planned to continue working with the centre as a volunteer leader. Then his arrest job will almost certainly be given, with Bédard's evident civic endorsement, to Yves Floate, a retiring provincial Liberal cabinet minister from a neighbouring riding who is a recovering alcoholic. Although Bédard is a fervent sovereigntist, "there are," he says, "no party distinctions when it comes to fighting addiction."

But for the centre—whether it is against addiction or for other principles—is something that comes naturally in the otherwise-unfamiliar Bédard winter Pierre Migonville who wrote the introduction to Bédard's book *Tu es au jeu jusqu'au bout* (You won't be alone any more), called him a "Western Don Quixote" whose struggles "represent those of all of us." The adopted son of a farmer in the tiny town of St-Eugène-de-Ganges in northern Quebec, Bédard became

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Revelations about safety are shaking public faith in Canada's blood supply

BAD BLOOD?

BY DARCY JENISH

For millions of Canadians it is a familiar sight: men and women stretched out on cots or reclining chairs with a tube in one arm to a plastic bag that collects their contributions to the nation's blood supply. All across Canada every week, donors at scores of Red Cross blood clinics hold in actual eyes, church basements and shopping malls give "the gift of life." At least one day last week, a clinic on the shopping concourse of a downtown Toronto office tower was full of donors like 50-year-old Beret Benson, who had passed up lunch to give blood. Benson, a data processing manager who donates up to six times a year and he supports the system and his complete confidence in the safety of blood products. "I wouldn't hesitate to have a transfusion if I needed one," Benson said before racing back to work.

But many Canadians no longer have that kind of rock-solid confidence in the blood system. Their faith was shaken by revelations throughout the late 1980s that an estimated 1,000 Canadians must of given hemophiliacs, had received blood products contaminated with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prior to 1985. About half of those people have since died of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), a tragedy that is being investigated by a federal-provincial judicial inquiry headed by Ontario Court of Appeal judge Bruce Roper (page 28). And last week, public confidence in the system was jolted again when the results of a US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) inspection of the Red Cross Toronto blood centre in July were reported.

The American inspectors found 19 deficiencies in the collection and handling of blood products at the



centre, including mislabeling of as many as 20 units of donated blood per month, inadequate screening of donors and substituted methods of tracking people who may have contributed blood containing HIV. As a result of the inspection, the FDA halted shipments of some Canadian plasma, the fluid part of blood, to its headquarters facility in Clayton, N.C., where it is broken down into about a dozen different products before being shipped back to the country. For many critical survivors of Canada's blood supply network, the FDA report confirmed their suspicions that safety remains a serious problem despite the publicity that led to the current inquiry. "We know the problems of the past had not been corrected," said Daphne Wong-Rieger, president of the Montreal-based Canadian Hemophilia Society. "The Red Cross is doing nothing to change."

In response to the FDA report, medical professionals and officials at the Canadian Red Cross Society vigorously defended the safety of blood supplies. They also insisted that the 17 Red Cross blood centres across the country are operating in full compliance with domestic regulations established by Health and Welfare Canada. But officials with the federal Health Protection Branch undermined those assertions by saying that they had, in fact, briefly closed four centres—in Montreal, London, Ont., Regina and Saskatoon—earlier this year for failing to meet all the regulations. The Red Cross later insisted that only some operations at those centres had been suspended.



Living blood in a Red Cross clinic in Toronto often means that the system has not been compromised.

At that point, federal Health Minister Diane Marleau intervened directly. On Thursday, she sent a group of officials from the Health Protection Branch to the Toronto blood centre to discuss the implications of the FDA exposure. Marleau later said she planned to study a report on the finding, prepared by her officials' inquiry commission. Nevertheless, she too, adamantly defended the integrity of the country's blood supply. "At no time have I been the minister of health has the safety of the blood system in

Canada been in question," Marleau insisted. "It's very important that we reassure Canadians that when there are irregularities we address them very quickly."

As the controversy escalated, Red Cross officials argued that the FDA inspectors had found deficiencies a largely because they applied American regulations, which in many cases were inappropriate for assessing Canadian procedures (page 28). Doug Lindores, secretary general of the Red Cross national office, cited, as an example, the incidents of missing accurate blood types to medical doctors. He said any errors would have been detected under Canadian double-testing techniques, but the American inspectors did not allow for differences in the system used by the two countries.

The adverse publicity now already be hitting the Red Cross where it hurts most: the blood donor clinics. Donations during the first six months of the society's fiscal year, which began on April 1, are down from five to nine per cent in various parts of the country due to several factors. Red Cross has been led to reductions in operating hours for many clinics. And lower demand for blood products, largely because doctors treat sickle-cell anemia with fewer transfusions than they used to do, has also led to a decline in contributions. But Lindores conceded that controversy in keeping potential donors away. "The publicity of this past week is potentially devastating," he said. "We have already had very important clinics cancelled by sponsoring companies, which have said they don't want to be associated with the Red Cross any more."

Lindores conceded that the FDA report will have an impact on the operation of Red Cross blood centres. They must adapt their operating procedures to American standards because there are no facilities in Canada capable of breaking down blood plasma into medically useful products, such as albumin, which is used to treat burn victims, and Factor VIII, a clotting agent needed by hemophiliacs. The society has formed a partnership with an American company to build a \$150-million fractionation plant in New Bedford, N.S., and construction is to begin next spring at the earliest. Until the project is complete, the society will continue to rely on the U.S. facility in Toronto. Canadians in process Canadian plasma.

The FDA inspectors halted six plasma units of only about 25 per cent of the plasma collected in Canada. Lindores said the Red Cross hopes to negotiate with the American agency to resume those shipments while the blood centres adjust their operating procedures. In the meantime, some critics say, Canadian hospitals could face short ages of plasma products unless the Red Cross buys them from pharmaceutical manufacturers—and that would be very expensive. "It could cost an millions of dollars more than it would to produce them from our own plasma," said Ming-Rieger. "Because they are in short supply all over the world and spot purchases are not cheap."

Despite these concerns, the key issue remains public safety according to Wong-Rieger and others

associated with groups representing Canadian heterophiles. They insist that the American procedures for screening and tracking donors as well as testing blood for the presence of disease are the most stringent in the world and should be adopted by the Canadian Red Cross. Doctors at Canadian clinics are reluctant to show proof of identity and complete a questionnaire dealing with health issues and sexual practices (including whether they have accepted money or drugs in exchange for sex, or had a male homosexual contact since 1977). The donations have a brief interview with a nurse to review the answers to the questionnaire.

In the United States, clinic nurses conduct face-to-face interviews with, wash the donors rather than allowing them to fill out a questionnaire. They also conduct a brief physical examination of every donor that involves checking for swollen lymph glands, taking their temperature and examining their femoral area for signs of intravenous drug use. "The United States believes these standards are critical, and we feel Canada deserves the same level of safety as the United States," said Wong Boggs. "In essence, we're saying that Canada will accept lower standards and a lesser degree of risk."

But Canadian health-care professionals insist that the standards in the two countries are simply different—tailored for valid reasons. Dr. Judith Zuckerman, director of hematology at the University of Alberta Hospital, noted that since American clinics are privately owned and pay for donations, "You tend to attract people who need money; sometimes for drugs, which makes them high-risk factors," said Hazzan. "We never see paid donors in Canada, so we have a much safer donor base."

Besides screening and tracking donors the Red Cross tests every unit of blood donated in Canada for the presence of HIV, hepatitis B and C, and a bacterium called *Cryptosporidium*. Heterophiles agree the screening across the country that the tests are very effective. But they also say that subject of blood in rare cases, can slip through the testing process. That occurs, they say, because the human immune system does not

produce antibodies to protect itself against a virus immediately after being infected. Because of the time lag between infection and the production of antibodies, tested blood can still contain the virus undetected.

Londoson said that C. Dillies, Delage, a Montreal-based specialist in infectious diseases, conducted a study for the Red Cross in 1989 that showed that the odds of infected blood slipping through the tests are about one in 250,000. The Red Cross cycle tests more than 1.1 million units of blood annually, meaning that, theoretically, up to five contaminated units could get into the system each year. But Londoson said the actual number is much lower because since 1986 there have been only 10 known cases of gay transmission through tainted blood.

Doctors say they now treat blood transfusions like any medical procedure. They remind them it is very rare, but they do so know that nothing in transfusion at over 100 per cent effective. For that reason, some doctors will not order a transfusion unless they believe it is clearly necessary. "I have to transfuse a patient. I don't have a great deal of hesitation," said Dr. Jeffrey Weiss, a hematologist at the Montreal Clinic Hospital & Health Centre. "On the other hand, no matter how good you are, some things are going to sneak through. So my intention for transfusing someone is much higher than it was, say, before 1980. I transfuse much less often than I used to, and I think that has been the trend for all of us."

But, given the potentially fatal consequences of receiving tainted blood, some observers insist that the government must make the system safer. Several members of opposition parties representing homosexuals have argued that Ottawa should force the Red Cross out of business and distribute blood altogether, and set up an alternative service. Others argue that, as a bare minimum, Health and Welfare Canada should insist that the Red Cross make improvements at almost every stage of the system. "It costs no more to do it the right way," said Wong Boggs. "That is the only way we have much value do you place on safety?" That is a question that the Red Cross—and all Canadians—will have to wrestle with.

By SCOTT STICKLE in Toronto

BANKING ON BLOOD

There are currently no private blood banks in Canada, but that may soon change if Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island's latest endeavor succeeds. Nearly three years ago, Stanbury, who is now a St. John's advertising agency, was warned that his daughter, Jennifer, then 8, might one day need blood—and face the risk of infection, so he asked the Canadian Red Cross if her blood could be collected and stored. The answer was no. While the Red Cross does allow some people who are planning to undergo surgery to bank their own blood, it does not allow its general public to routinely "bank" blood on their own property as an alternative, says Stanbury, 30. "They wanted the right to get away from our blood, so that if they needed a transfusion it was their own that they got."

Stanbury decided to open the Canadian Blood Bank to provide just that service. He built a state-of-the-art blood storage and collection facility in St. John's, hired a medical staff—and spent several months trying to get government approval to begin operation. Barring any unforeseen glitches, he now says, he hopes to be fully licensed and open by November. "No one else got sick with our product because you're getting your own blood back," he says. "You can't infect anyone else. You can't get hepatitis, you can't get syphilis, you can't get HIV. It is a program that should be introduced right across the country." In fact, even licensed, Stanbury plans to oversee the opening of 15 more such facilities across Canada—at least one in each province—all privately owned, most by physicians.

The Red Cross now garners people between the ages of 17 and 70 who plan to undergo certain surgical procedures to bank their own blood, provided they are generally healthy and have the approval of their physician. Solicited autologous donations, however, can begin only 30 days before the date of surgery because red blood cells will not keep any longer under refrigeration. Stanbury, on the other hand, plans to collect whole blood, separate the red blood cells and freeze them at temperatures of -30° C. In that state, the blood can be kept for at least 10 years. The fee for the service, a one-time charge of \$500 for collection of four units—and then about \$1 a month for storage.

Critics say prohibition could undermine the existing donor system—and that Stanbury is taking advantage of fears about Canada's blood supply. Regardless of those charges, more and more Canadians will bank their own blood. According to the Red Cross, 1,837 people made autologous donations in 1990-1991, in 1993-1994, the number more than tripled to 6,178. Concerns about safety will almost certainly keep those numbers rising.

SCOTT STICKLE

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SETTING STANDARDS

How U.S. rules on blood are tougher than Canada's

BY MARK NICHOLS

Ever since transfusions of contaminated blood during the late 1970s and early 1980s infected thousands of North Americans, hemophiliacs with AIDS, rigorous safeguards have been in place in Canada and U.S. blood clinics. But the risk remains that someone infected with the AIDS virus, who has yet to develop the antibodies that tests can detect, might donate blood. "If I have suspicions," says Jan Sootnik, senior manager at the Red Cross's Toronto blood centre, "we would ask the donor to consider very, very carefully whether he should be giving blood." That is just the beginning of the battery of measures aimed at safeguarding Canadian blood supply. That is the name of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Canadian system contains some potentially dangerous loopholes. A report filed by an FDA inspector in July and made public last week found 16 deficiencies in the Toronto blood centre's procedures—including some that, in theory at least, could reject blood transfusion requests with deadly diseases.

The report pointed to differences in the way American and Canadian blood clinics operate—and led to a U.S. ban on some types of blood being sent to a plant in North Carolina for processing. In some cases, the FDA criticizes based on minor administrative flaws. The Toronto clinic, which serves 64 hospitals in southern Ontario, was faulted for using external devices that were not signed by senior officials. The FDA report also pointed to sometimes casual record-keeping at the Toronto centre and a less thorough approach to donor health than FDA rules require. In Canadian clinics, donors are not weighed, nor is their temperature and blood pressure measured—procedures that are followed in U.S. Red Cross clinics.

Other criticisms contained in the FDA report investigated some smaller areas in the screening process developed to protect the blood supply. One Canadian practice involving tests for the AIDS virus appears to create a small but worrying chance that contaminated blood might get into the body of a blood transfusion recipient. Among the major criticisms in the FDA report:

SCREENING DONORS: In both Canadian and American Red Cross blood clinics, staff members demand information from prospective donors about their medical history, their travel record—and about whether they have engaged in high-risk behavior

that could expose them to infection by the HIV virus that is believed to cause AIDS. The procedure in U.S. Red Cross blood clinics is probably tougher than in Canada. American Red Cross staffers verbally question donors about their sexual conduct and about high-risk activities. Only sometimes are verbal follow-up questions asked. In U.S. clinics donors must expose their arms so that staffers can check for specific marks that would indicate intravenous drug use—another high-risk activity for HIV infection. In Canadian clinics, nurses check donors' arms only

occasionally.

activists are likely asked. "Have you had sex with a man since 1977?" The answers are written down and recorded. In Canadian clinics donors fill out a 17-point questionnaire that inquires about past illnesses and about high-risk activities. Only sometimes are verbal follow-up questions asked. In U.S. clinics donors must expose their arms so that staffers can check for specific marks that would indicate intravenous drug use—another high-risk activity for HIV infection. In Canadian clinics, nurses check donors' arms only

occasionally while blood donations are being made. On both sides of the border, donors who may have had sex since the last opportunity to come clean by answering Yes or No to a confidential question that asks whether their blood should be used in transfusion.

TESTING FOR HIV: After donors have given blood, Canadian and U.S. Red Cross clinics test a blood sample for infectious viruses, including HIV, three types of hepatitis, syphilis and the leukemia virus HTLV. In both countries, initial screening for HIV is by a test called ELISA (or enzyme-linked immune assay)—which is quick but often inaccurate. If the ELISA test indicates the presence of HIV antibodies produced by the body's immune system, a Western blot test—on which antibodies appear as bands on specially coated paper—is used to confirm the first finding. When the ELISA test indicates possible HIV infection, a donor's blood, U.S. clinics immediately quarantine any crossed blood previously taken from the donor. In such cases, Canadian clinics do not take action until the Western blot test confirms the ELISA finding—a procedure that can require up to two weeks. The FDA report found this practice unacceptable. In defiance, Dr. Wendy Lau, deputy medical director at the Toronto blood centre, said that despite the high number of false positive results produced by ELISA tests, the chance of HIV-infected blood being used in a transfusion while waiting for the Western blot results is "highly unlikely." But, added Lau, "I can't say that it's impossible."

TRACING HIV-INFECTED DONORS: When a blood transfusion recipient tests positive for HIV, the Canadian Red Cross attempts to contact and retreat all donors whose blood was involved—a daunting task since blood products may contain material from hundreds of donors. When an HIV-positive donor is located, the search ends because Canadian officials believe that the donors are safe: their other collected donors were screened. The FDA criticized this practice, saying that in many donors it is possible should be located and tested. Lau said that the Canadian Red Cross would probably begin to follow the U.S. practice.

SCREENING FOR HEPATITIS B: In Canadian clinics a simple method, called a surface antigen test, is used to check on the pres-

ence of the virus for hepatitis B—a sometimes fatal disease that attacks the liver. In the United States, the FDA requires blood clinics to use two hepatitis B tests: the surface antigen test and, in addition, a core antibody test. While the surface antigen method tests for the presence of the hepatitis B virus, the core antibody test is used to indicate the presence of hepatitis antibodies. Canadian Red Cross officials point out that a person who has had hepatitis in the past may have fully recovered—and be free of the infectious virus—but still have antibodies in his blood. Though the FDA report criticized Canadian clinics for not using both hepatitis B tests, FDA spokesman Larry Blacklock conceded that "it's a judgment call—the fact that Canada doesn't use both tests should probably not be regarded as a serious deficiency."

AUTOLOGOUS BLOOD TESTING: In some cases, people scheduled for surgery can bank blood to be used later for their own transfusions. These are called autologous transfusions. In both Canadian and U.S. blood clinics, initial screening procedures are applied to autologous donations. But under FDA rules, American clinics remove the reference to blood type from labels on bags containing autologous blood so that it is less likely to be used by mistake on anyone except the donor. In Canadian clinics, the blood type is part of the identifying number on blood bags—a procedure followed in the FDA report. There are other differences in U.S. and Canadian autologous blood systems. Canada, if autologous blood tests positive for HIV, it is destroyed—and the patient is transfused with noncontaminated blood. That in U.S. clinics, AIDS victims and people who are HIV-positive can bank their own HIV-infected blood for later transfusions.

DUPLICATE DONOR RECORDS: The FDA report also objected to the fact that the Toronto blood centre's computer—unlike the American Red Cross's computer system—is not equipped with a program to spot even where records exist for the same donor, perhaps with slightly different spellings of the name or other details. As a result, a Canadian donor's complete record might not be filed under a single name. According to Lau, a new computer system that can search for and spot duplications is currently under development.

There are other differences between the Canadian and American blood collection systems. In Canada, all blood collection is carried out by the Red Cross, under the supervision of Health Canada's drug department. In the United States, only about half of the blood supply is in Red Cross hands. The rest is collected and distributed by community clinics, nonprofit blood banks and hospitals. There are also about 60 centres that collect blood plasma—the fluid part of blood used in the manufacturing of specialized blood products, including clotting factors for hemophiliacs. American plasma donors are paid between \$20 and \$27. Canadian blood donors are never paid. But U.S. officials insist that paid plasma donors—many of them students or unemployed workers—are strictly screened. "Our entry procedures are second to none," says James Kelly, president of Anonymous Blood-Born American Blood Resources Association. Now, clients by the Canadian Red Cross to correct the problem spotlighted by the FDA report should ensure that the nation's blood supply remains up to the same lofty standards.

BOB WILLIAMS/LIGHTHOUSE for *Headlight*



Testing blood for HIV; donating in Ottawa (right) battery of measures



They laid stories of acute pain, personal devastation and an incredible courage. And yet even the deadliest AIDS virus could blunt the urgency of the question they asked over and over again: why did nearly 1,000 Canadian receive blood contaminated with the virus in the early 1980s? That is the question that a public inquiry into the Canadian blood-supply system has been trying to answer since it began last week in February. So far, what has emerged over nearly 300 sessions is a damning portrait of the Canadian Red Cross as a rigidly bureaucratic organization, and of government officials who covered up warnings that the blood supply had been infected by the virus. For the victims, such revelations only tend to raise more pain and frustration. Judge Kravitz, 38, of Halifax, who conducted the virus through a blood transfusion in 1980 and led a national fight for compensation, seemed to be speaking for all the victims when he bluntly said the inquiry, "It's just plain murder what they did, giving out a product that they know is going to kill you."

At Ottawa, change desperately to take in Halifax, last week, the inquiry headed by Ontario Court of Appeal Judge Pierre Kravitz was preparing to begin 13 days of hearings in Montreal on Sept. 13. Kravitz is to file an interim report to federal health authorities in November, and will then begin another round of hearings that will focus



Family and Janet Connors:
"It's just plain murder
what they did"

VOICES OF THE VICTIMS

An inquiry reveals how the blood system failed

they examine the role that a number of national organizations, including the Red Cross and various government agencies, played in the distribution of the tainted blood. So far, the inquiry which has expected to cost \$25 million before it concludes on Dec. 31, 1995, has heard from 135 witnesses in nine cities and compiled more than 200,000 pages of documentation—much of it detailing how health officials and the Red Cross dealt with the spread of the AIDS virus in the blood supply. And because the testimony seems to suggest that many health professionals were aware that the AIDS virus was present in the blood supply, some victims say they must have been brought to justice. Connors's wife, Janet, said, "Mother's," I hope Judge Kravitz will trace his report in such a way that criminal charges could be laid."

Heard Connors, who also has the AIDS virus and others involved in the inquiry, are also already looking beyond Kravitz's final report. Connors said she was in Toronto in July following her husband's appearance at the inquiry and showed him in her workshop so hard to get at the truth. But while victims like Connors say they have

great faith in Kravitz, they insist they will not be satisfied until Ottawa and the provinces act on the recommendations that Kravitz ultimately puts forward. Her lawyer, Donna King of Halifax, who also played a major role in bringing the tainted blood issue to national attention, said that the federal government may eventually have to consider whether the Red Cross should even be involved in the distribution of blood. Said King: "It's disturbing how much everyone knew, and how little was done." Added Darlene Wong-Riley, president of the Montreal-based Canadian Hemophilia Society: "We must the system closed up. We have to have the highest safety standards."

Officials of the Red Cross and other health organizations, however, say that the mistakes that were made were not made purposely or through neglect. Rather, they say, like many other health professionals in the early 1980s, they were caught unaware by how rapidly the AIDS virus spread. In fact, the inquiry was told that a media guide prepared by federal and provincial public health officials in August 1985, still downplayed the risk of contracting AIDS through a transfusion. And Dr. Mary Fleming, who became the first

chairman of the Ontario Advisory Committee on AIDS, told the inquiry that at one point in the early 1980s health officials believed that the looming epidemic might not even materialize. "The fact there were such a small number of cases in Canada compared with a huge number in the United States made people think this would pass us by," Fleming said.

At the same time, Canadian health officials appear to have been worried that the deadly virus was spreading into the blood supply. According to testimony, the Red Cross received a report from scientists at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta in early 1982. It stated: "The occurrence of AIDS among three hemophilic cases suggests the possible transmission of an agent through blood products." And, the Kravitz inquiry was told, health professionals in Canada were also becoming concerned. According to the minutes of



Kravitz: His inquiry
is showing how
officials missed
warnings about AIDS

a meeting of Red Cross personnel and government officials on Dec. 2, 1982, those present were aware of the growing threat posed by AIDS. "Blood products may be the route of transmission," Dr. Frances Shepherd, a Toronto cancer specialist, told the meeting. "It is true, it would be far reaching implications with respect to the donation and distribution of blood and blood products."

In 1980, however, the Red Cross still apparently had not taken steps to control the spread of the virus. Even so, the Canadian Hemophilia Society had already warned its members about the AIDS virus and advised hemophiliacs to use cryoprecipitate, a frozen blood product made from a small number of donors, and not to switch to blood concentrate known as Factor VIII, which was made from thousands of blood donations and was thus more likely to be contaminated

with the virus. Red Cross officials, in a memo dated May 26, 1983, seemed to indicate that they still believed the blood supply was safe. The memo stated: "Red Cross personnel emphasized blood and Factor VIII concentrations are very safe, and hemophilic and other transfusion recipients need to be reassured of that."

Top Red Cross officials also seemed to ignore warnings from their own people. Dr. John MacKay, a medical director of the Red Cross in New Brunswick, told the inquiry that to prevent the transmission of diseases, he wanted the organization to raise the standard of what he considered to be healthy blood. But he said he was told by Red Cross officials in Ottawa that he would be fired if he submitted a petition to the national office of the Red Cross. Red Cross officials in Ottawa, he testified, wanted to impose a national standard even if that meant ignoring progress for a more rigorous audit of the blood supply. MacKay told the inquiry: "I was told it is not the place of a local medical director to say and put in standards which exceed those of the national office."

One of the most damning allegations levelled at the Red Cross is related what became known as the organization's "Schindler's list"—in reference to the Jews that German industrialist Oskar Schindler saved from Second World War death camps. Since Thomas of Regina, whose son died of AIDS in 1990, told the inquiry that in 1982 the Red Cross had a list of those who would get blood treated to eradicate the AIDS virus and those who would not. And according to testimony from Martin Schneider, medical director of the Manitoba Red Cross, "priority lists" were in fact circulated to physicians, listing the names of those eligible for the safer blood products. But Thomas told the inquiry that by rationing the safe blood, the Red Cross was actually deciding who would live and who would die. "This list was a list to the ribs," said Thomas. "And as this goes on, there are more and more names to the ribs."

The inquiry also heard evidence that hemophilia C, a debilitating and potentially deadly virus, was also present in the Red Cross blood supply. But once again, the inquiry was told that the organization did not warn the public. Ottawa lawyer Pierre Lavigne, who now represents almost 100 people who have that virus, told MacKenzie that the fact that hemophilia C was found in the blood supply cases is held up nearly through the inquiry. He added that the Red Cross was aware of its existence all along, but had not notified the public. "While it stopped short of accusing the Red Cross of a cover-up, Lavigne said that officials made a conscious decision not to reveal its presence. "Hemophilia was seen as one of the costs of doing business," he said. "They didn't want any bad publicity."

Such revelations, however, only increased the anger of those engaged by AIDS. Emma Chapman told the inquiry in Winnipeg what it was like to be married to a person with AIDS. "My life was for him to be over," Chapman said of her husband, Jim Smyth. "There are no children, no career or an heir." And in St. John's, Rita Maric, whose son Justin died of the disease in 1992, told of the cruel isolation that AIDS brings. When her then 12-year-old boy was diagnosed, his friends quickly abandoned him. Said Maric: "His friends never came to see him in the hospital, never sent a card, nothing."

Others who testified said that they had been betrayed by institutions they trusted. Janet Campbell of Pickering, Ont., told the inquiry she was selected by a blood transfusion in 1981, but Campbell said she learned of the presence of the disease only last year when she sought treatment for a persistent flu. "I do get letters from St. Michael's Hospital [where her transfusion was administered] in Toronto, since at twice a year, asking for money for their building fund," said Campbell. "That why did they never contact me to say I was in debt? I would like to know who made the decision that my life is expendable."

For other victims the inquiry provided a last chance to codify health officials. Janet Connors told MacKenzie that, for her husband, appearing before the inquiry and living the people he believed were responsible for his disease was a cathartic moment. "We fought as hard as we could to get there," said Connors. "It was one of the last things he had to do." For hundreds of other victims, the fight continues.

TOM PENNELL

A large crowd of people, many wearing head coverings, gathered outdoors. The image is somewhat blurry and has a high-contrast, almost black and white appearance with some color. The people are densely packed, and many are looking towards the camera or slightly to the side. Some are wearing headscarves or head coverings. The background is not clearly visible, suggesting an outdoor setting with many people.

CAIR

Pope John Paul II flexes his moral muscles on the world stage

The world's deadliest state is making the biggest headlines these days. Last month, it revealed the mighty United States, even striding directly into American politics by attacking Vice-President Al Gore by name and accusing him of lying about his country's

abortion policy. It tied up this month's headline United Nations conference on population control in Cairo, Egypt, partly muddling debate because of its moral objections to three paragraphs in a proposed 113-page agreement. And when his leader announced plans to make a highly anticipated visit to besieged Sarajevo last week, he helped end the two-year old Bosnian war cascading into another violent one.

This would ensure that mixed The Episcopalians (transferred from the Vatican, the 19th-century Catholic state-shaping body), their River Jordan leaders, Pope John Paul II, Bishop of Rome, spiritual guide of more than one billion Catholics, seemed here as master and that the Holy See filled the robes of a great power. He does not need armed divisions to do so. Now 75 years old, weakened by a ribcage operation last year and recovering from a broken hip in April, the Pope has lost much of his kingly grandeur. If anything, he appears to be pressed by the sense that his earthly time may be running out, with so much to do that "The Pope" now himself is just as much of a world leader as Bill Clinton or John Major," says Brian Michael Walsh, whose biography of John Paul II will be published in October.

Nowhere was that desire more evident than in Cairo, where delegates from 180 countries gathered on Sept. 5 to put the final touches on a strategy for halting down global population.

growth. The time commitment, a 140,000-hr, 20-year plan to construct, among other things, new health education in the developing world, seemed nearly done for Vatican and certain Islamic states from the start. The Pope's comments that sections of the plan are merely self-led pledges to guarantee abortion on demand, "Does the Vatican rule the world?" asked experienced Egyptian population minister Maher Mahana, and the papal delegation in Cairo again blocked wider debate on population issues because of an objection to a clause dealing with abortion. After five days of wrangling over the issue, the Vatican said that although it could never accept legal abortion, it would no longer hold on to the emphasis

Mary Roman Catholics, especially in the West, were also angry. "How come this is the only religion with a permanent observer seat at the United Nations?" complained American Frances Kauling, president of the Island



Catholics for Free Choice Even away from Cohn's heated atmosphere, the Pope found high-profile critics. "I raise myself among the growing number of Catholics who support the ordination of women as priests," said Senator Edward Kennedy, locked in a difficult re-election contest in liberal Massachusetts.

John Paul II (65-year pope) has been inspired by a rigid defense of Catholic doctrine. In papal utterances over the past two years, he has decreed that homosexuality and sex before marriage are intrinsically evil; declared that masturbation is a gravely disordered act, equated that using contraception is the equivalent of committing an abhorrent, well-reiterated the ban on women priests; Solicited Church members to match the prevailing morality of the times is clearly not an option. "John Paul is a fundamentalist," says Muhl. "The hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church is one of religious accommodation with society so that it was never on the margins. Now the pope is forcing the Church to the margins by making more demands that few Catholics can meet. He is turning it from a world church to a sect."

The Vatican is unswayed by such criticisms, especially of its stand on abortion. "If the Holy Father is largely isolated and alone on this issue, it may well be because modern thought and politics have embraced principles that cannot enhance human worth and destiny," wrote Vatican spokesman Joaquín Navarro-Valls on the eve of the Cato conference. Admirers and critics alike say that John Paul sees himself as the

make a difference in war-torn Bosnia. In January, John Paul pledged to visit the three corners of the conflict, Belgrade, the Serbian capital, Zagreb, the capital of largely Catholic Croatia, and Sarajevo, centre of the Muslim-led Bosnian government. The "pilgrimage for peace," as it was called, was in keeping with the Pope's love for the dramatic gesture.

The hostile Serbian Orthodox church burned his wool to Bergrade, angry that the Vatican had been the first state to recognize Yugoslavia's seceding republics of Croatia and Slovenia in January 1992. But John Paul's trip to Sarajevo—scheduled for Sept. 8, where 25,000 people were expected to celebrate an open-air mass at the former Olympic speed skating oval in the ruins of St. Marko's—was quickly awarded. The slogan for the papal visit, plastered around the city in posters, was "You are not abandoned, we are with you."

Just as one day before he was to leave, John Paul cancelled his trip because of security fears. Instead, the Pope delivered the homily intended for Surgeons seated on the balcony of his summer papal residence in Castelgandolfo, in the hills south of Rome. Speaking in Serbo-Croatian, he employed each side to forgive the other, and referred to the "disastrous spectacle of making humanity." But the war gathered steam that same day with aggressive war Serb offensives into the Muslim enclave of Srebrenica. The Pope did proceed with his visit to Zagreb last week, which may have had the unintended side-effect of reinforcing the perception among Orthodox Serbs that he sides with their Catholic Croat enemies.

John Paul, who has used modern tools like the airplane to promote his ideological message, may not have much to present left in him. Although the Pope has expounded a determination to provide overabundance at the millennium, his physical frailty has many Vatican watchers already calculating who might follow—and whether his successor will preserve his hard-line stance.

Dino Jotti's faithful supporters have questioned some recent papal acts, especially bestowing the Order of St. John, a Vatican knighthood, on former U.S. Secretary General and Austrian President Kurt Waldheim in July. Waldheim has been an international pariah since the U.S. justice department accused him of complicity in Nazi atrocities during the Second World War. For a pope who has always followed his own beliefs without regard for whom his might offend, the move was in keeping with character. But increasingly, pointed questions are being raised about whether this papacy is shoring up the Church's foundations, or driving an irreparable wedge between Catholics and their spiritual leader.

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'The Pope sees himself as just as much of a world leader as Bill Clinton'

definitive at all in a world that is managed by evil. Morals and ethics cannot be negotiated away. "His stance on feminist issues is bound to make him unpopular, but he is shaped by his early childhood years in Eastern Europe," says Eamon Duffy, a church historian at England's Cambridge University. The mother of young Karl Wojtyla, the future pope, died in childbirth when he was nine, and he came of age during Poland's nightmare years of Nazi, and then Soviet, occupation. "Meniscus has always deter-

John Paul: Muslim women in Pakistan protesting the Cairo conference (opposite); the abortion issue

One place where the Pope had failed to

THE POWER OF THE POPE

John Paul:
Muslim women
in Pakistan
protesting the
Cairo conference
(opposite) the
abortion issue
Joan's Catholic
infamous alliance

HEAD OF THE LINE

GM Canada's new president is out to prove that she can sell

BY BRENDA DALGLISH

Margaret Kempton Darke's office overlooks a canal-ringed suburb and visible rivers near the grounds of a massive industrial complex in Oakville, on the shore of Lake Ontario. But it's the extraordinary corner view from the head office of the country's largest corporation, General Motors of Canada Ltd., is noteworthy, as its new president, Kempton Darke, is an even more extraordinary sight. A petite 40-year-old lawyer who is the first woman to ever hold the top job at GM Canada, she is Kempton Darke's recent appointment is most notable not because she is a woman and a Canadian (in the past, GM has usually sent U.S. executives to run the Canadian subsidiary), but because she does not have the traditional auto industry background in sales, finance or engineering. However, at GM's headquarters, where a corporate restructuring division in a basement revolt and the owner of chairman Robert Stempel Jr. in 1992, senior management is clearly signaling a break with the past. And as it struggles to turn itself into a more efficient (customer-driven) company, Kempton Darke's appointment seems to fit that spirit. "This," she told *Money*, "is the new General Motors."

Kempton Darke has taken over at GM Canada just as the auto industry is turning a corner after five years of declining vehicle sales. In fact, automakers predict that 1994 will produce the first upturn in sales since 1988, and the timing appears favorable to Kempton Darke taken over at the helm of Canada's largest car company, which had sales of almost \$22 billion in 1993 and profits of \$208 million. That makes GM Canada significantly larger than Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd., which had a loss of \$257 million on sales



Kempton Darke, first woman to head Canada's largest company

of \$40 billion in 1993, or Chrysler Canada Ltd., with a profit of \$202 million on revenues of \$14 billion. But because production divisions are largely decentralized by General Motors' U.S. head office in Detroit, Kempton Darke's primary responsibility—despite her lack of previous experience—is for sales and marketing to Canadian customers. She is taking on those responsibilities, including the need to improve relations with the company's dealers, at a time when they are more crucial than ever. Dealers, in turn, are also analyst and head of Dealers Automotive Consultants Inc. of Toronto says that although the Big Three North American automakers have made great advances in upgrading vehicle quality and improving the efficiency of their manufacturing

processes, their sales and marketing efforts are lagging. "That's the issue now," says Deakins. "Where GM ends up this year from now, depends on how well they do with sales and marketing."

Until now, Kempton Darke's experience has been primarily at GM's head and public policy level. But after almost 20 years with the company, she is well acquainted with the challenges down the road. She joined GM Canada's legal staff in 1975 after a two-year stint at Duke University and Harvard, a graduate of Toronto law firm. Four years later, she became the company's assistant counsel and then headed its law department from 1986 to 1988. During that period she worked with Jack Bril, GM's current president and chief

AR AND TRUCK SALES IN CANADA (first eight months of 1994)

SALES			
General Motors	175,546	up 2%	
Ford	630,239	up 1.5%	
Chrysler			
General Motors	105,282	up 15.7%	
Ford	326,147	up 12.6%	

executive officer, who was president of GM Canada from 1984 to 1986. Her next posting was a special assignment to the treasurer's office in New York City from 1985 to 1987. In 1987, Kempton Darke became general director of public affairs for GM Canada until she was promoted, in 1991, to vice-president of corporate affairs. In 1992, she added the titles of general counsel and corporate secret-

tary to her responsibilities and joined the board of directors.

That diverse experience gives Kempton Darke a well-rounded background for the crucial public policy side of the generalist's job.

Indeed she says there are a number of times that GM Canada will be looking during her tenure. "Things like payroll issues," says Kempton Darke. "We are governments wanting to raise more and more levels of payroll taxes. But, while to the public they may seem attractive because they mean to put the burden on large corporations, in fact they are a series of jobs." She says that her role will be to provide governments with enough information to make the right decisions. Governments are responsible for making the decisions, she adds. "But we have only ourselves to blame if we get the wrong decision because we don't take the time to provide appropriate advice."

Those who have encountered Kempton Darke in industry circles say that she is a determined woman—and a tough negotiator. Neil De Kaker, president of the Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association, who has worked with her on industry projects, says that, despite her low-key, personable demeanor, she is someone who takes on an assignment "She's like a bulldog," said De Kaker. "Once she gets her jaws into something she doesn't let go."

That trait appears to run in Kempton Darke's family. Her father was an Irish immigrant who settled in Toronto during the 1930s but he died after a long illness when she was 12. Kempton Darke says that she and her two older brothers were raised by a mother whose favorite saying was "The only time you're best is when you're not there." And Kempton Darke says that the experience of watching her mother raise and educate three children is better now than the wages from her job as a bank secretary taught her an unequivocal lesson about the need to be able to support herself. Her eldest brother, John

Kempton, a Toronto doctor, says that he and his brothers, Stephen, 41, now a dentist, were diligent about their studies, but it was their sister who always modeled the buckles. "If we were studying until midnight," he said, "Mama would be grading away until two."

It is that sort of discipline that has led some colleagues to view Kempton Darke as the quintessential corporate executive, ambitious and single-minded in her determination to succeed. But her brother, who said that he had just that morning awakened to find his sister had had his front lawn covered with plastic pack blankets, progress and balloons as a 50th birthday surprise, offers another picture. Despite the pressures of her job, he says that it is in Kempton Darke who most frequently visits and shops for their mother and organizes their family's big Christmas celebration, right down to stuffing the turkey herself. Kempton Darke and her husband, Larry Darke, a lawyer with the City of North York, a Toronto suburb, have no children.

Kempton Darke downplays her gender, saying that she has never focused on the fact that she is a woman. Still, the automotive sector remains a male-dominated industry, which, until recently, employed few women in any capacity. The number of women in senior management has risen to 10 per cent, from just 4.6 per cent 20 years ago. Now, 18 per cent of top salaried workers and 30 per cent of their hourly paid workers are women. Kempton Darke, who says that she is accustomed to being the only woman in a room as the first woman to accomplish many things in the company, is almost blase about the need for a change. "Diversity is a huge issue in business today," she says. "It's important that we have a culture within the organization that will encourage contributions to the minimum of three dollars." She says that the change would be good for business. "After all, women make 50 per cent of the new car buying decisions and influence 70



per cost of the deal." She was an early advocate of the enhanced winner's rule within GM's 1988, when it was considered a relatively radical move. Krimpton-Darke helped found a women's advisory council at GM Canada that provided a forum for the corporation's female employees to discuss business issues.

Although the devoted Krimpton-Darke had come to car sales in the past via a brief stint as a receptionist at a Ford dealership where she was a university student, she was a quick learner. Already she is chasing the new mazes of Detroit. The customer is king. "Our success,"

she says, "will come and fall on how well we meet and exceed customer expectations."

Even as Krimpton-Darke's name loomed over her new role at GM Canada, some fundamental changes are already under way in the area where she must excel: find, sales and marketing. All three North American make-believe have begun experimenting with sales techniques. Last year, GM launched a so-called value pricing campaign in which car dealers set a realistic sticker price on their vehicles and then reduce it later, eliminating the make-or-buy-offer hassle that many people dislike. Most recently, GM introduced 24-hour

roadside service. "That's been a major shift in an otherwise stagnant job," says Krimpton-Darke. "It's been tremendously successful in the marketplace."

A key part of GM Canada's effort to reposition itself in the automotive market is to improve the relationship with its network of 1,000 dealers across Canada. Last week, Krimpton-Darke traveled to children in Prince's Lake Valley, where she sat with a handful of top dealers who had new vehicles there in just six sales presentations. In early October, she will attend the GM dealers' annual convention in Arizona, and after that, she says, she plans to personally visit dealers across Canada.

Both Krimpton-Darke and the dealers are likely to learn a lot during those visits. Derek Knowles, the elected head of all Canadian dealers and president of Highland Pontiac Buick GMC in Montreal, says that the dealers want Krimpton-Darke to address several issues, including his claim that General Motors has too many dealers. "In the good years," Knowles says, "GM had the sales to justify the idea that there should be a dealer on every corner." But GM's market share has dropped to about 30 per cent in some areas, such as 50 per cent in the 1980s. Furthermore, improved vehicle quality means that customers are keeping their vehicles much as long as before. As a result, Knowles says that there are too many dealers making lower and lower sales. "We are over-dealers," said Knowles. "In the past, that was one method the General used to keep the cost of cars down on the retail side. But it's gotten out of hand now." And instead of the dealers competing with each other to keep a healthy downward pressure on car prices, the competition has become so fierce that many are not making enough sales to cover costs, live and as dealers negotiate over the number of dealers that are allowed to open.

Another point of tension between the corporation and the dealers is the shortage of popular vehicles. Knowles says that GM does not deliver new product to the dealers when it is needed. "GM can't meet its production schedule," declared Knowles. "They have a very major problem delivering new product to us when they say they will." The customer, after more than 30 years, GM is replacing the Pontiac Starbird (which with its closely related Chevrolet counterpart, the Cavalier, are the best-selling cars in Canada) with a new car, the Scuderi. But Knowles says that although the Scuderi is good, he isn't convinced yet enough dealers to meet customer demand. "I doubt if I'll see the Scuderi before the end of the year," he said. "And that's my best-selling car." He says that the same problem besets most of GM's new products. "It's particularly frustrating because the competition doesn't seem to have this problem. They have lots of new products coming. I take my list of 10 Ford and Chrysler. Why can't our cars be built on time?"

Krimpton-Darke acknowledges the problems. The new Monte Carlo and Lumina will

side cars that are being manufactured only in Ontario, are part of the problem. Those two cars, which went into production earlier this year, are among GM's first experiments with a new type of design and new manufacturing processes that are supposed to dramatically simplify and streamline vehicle production. The new Monte Carlo and Lumina, for example, have several hundred fewer parts than their predecessor models, and they are supposed to be easier to assemble. But Krimpton-Darke says that the reduced change required a major plant retooling. "We planned a very slow production acceleration curve," she says. "We are committed to not releasing any product from the plant until it meets expectations of customer satisfaction." She says that Ontario has produced 95,000 Monte Carlos and Luminas, and that production rates are "about on track."

For his part, Knowles acknowledges that the problem of product shortages is a primary beyond Krimpton-Darke's control. Some 60 per cent of new product is assigned in Detroit. "GM Canada can't do a hell of a lot about improving the efficiency of the manufacturing process," he says. "But where GM Canada can get its act together a little better is to fight for the available product better." Knowles says he was interested to see that GM at the beginning of September that the Canadian dealers would get more cars through the fall than they received last year. "That's great, except that they're not what we need," he said. "They're giving us \$20,000 cars in place of \$12,000 cars. My customers don't want those."

However, Knowles and Krimpton-Darke are in agreement on the issue of how the dealers should treat their customers. All the decisions at GM will be made by the dealers for their customers. The policies will be to provide GM customers with the kind of standardized service expected from McDonald's hamburger restaurants, will cover everything from the way customers are greeted when they arrive to a showroom to the level of discounts that must be made when a vehicle is sold.

By upgrading and standardizing the service provided by its dealers, the largest such organization in the industry, GM is planning to gain a crucial competitive advantage. "I think as a whole our industry has a very poor reputation for providing customer service, for listening to our design with customers," said Knowles. "We felt for a long time that I was really glad I didn't have to buy a car." Although the design and manufacturing processes have been radically changed in recent years to accommodate the needs and wishes of customers, more aspects of the sales process still treat the customer like an adversary. GM hopes to change that so the customer's interests come first, he adds. "GM has not led the pack for a long time, and this is one area where we can get ahead all the time." Says Krimpton-Darke: "We're looking at every way we can to make the purchasing and ownership experience more pleasant for the customer." Krimpton-Darke says she may not have much experience as a car salesman, but she certainly knows where to steer the company's

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A family food fight

Almost a year to the day after the on-again fight between brothers Wallace and Harrison McCain exploded into public view with a lawsuit launched by Wallace, he headed back to court last Thursday. Wallace asked the New Brunswick Court of Queen's Bench to resolve the wrangling over the McCain Foods Ltd. \$3-billion supermarket food-food company he and Harrison founded 38 years ago in Fort St. John, N.B. He apparently made sure not to miss any of the 30 family members gathered at a company shareholders meeting this week, would not to omit him from his job as chief executive officer of McCain. And while the brothers battled back and forth, other family members—some as well as the 300 residents of Florenceville—watched with growing dismay.

"It's just painful that they're let alone to this," said Fred McCain, a cousin of Wallace, 66, and Harrison, 66, who lives in Florenceville and has no financial interest in the company. "I don't think they know what it's all about anymore."

In a letter from Wallace to Harrison last week—which Wallace also released to the media—he complained that Harrison was being unreasonable about the proposals he has put forward to settle their dispute. "It seems the more I become," wrote Wallace. "The more people approach you take," he says. Harrison, who has tried to keep the family out of private, was clearly unhappy with Wallace's latest contact with the media. To a Canadian Press reporter seeking his response, he snapped. "The press has the last damn letter in an hour and a half, and it's still writing my notes to reply."

Meanwhile, Andrew McCain, the nephew of Harrison and Wallace and the chairman of the family holding company, McCain Foods Group Inc., says that Wallace's latest lawsuit is similar to the one he launched a year ago when the brothers first clashed over the issue of Wallace's reinstatement. That action, which was to be heard at the federal court, was a bid to force Wallace back into his job, says the company. Wallace had been fired from his job as chief executive officer in 1997 after a private settlement. Judge Rosalind Stevenson said, "At this time Stevenson ruled that because of a legal loophole that the holding company had failed to close, Wallace could keep his job for the moment but could be removed in the future if the board followed

proper procedures. The judge also ordered, in an informal letter to the brothers, his own selection to their dispute."

Wallace's latest legal action requests that the court impose Stevenson's recommendations that both he and Harrison step down as chief executive officers, that an arbitrator be hired to run the company and that a portion of the company's shares be sold to the public

and the remaining 33 per cent are owned by the families of their older, deceased brothers Robert and Andrew, who were early and active investors in McCain Foods. "Wallace would like the world to believe that it's a partnership between him and Harrison," said Andrew. "But it's a corporation. It was incorporated 38 years ago by five brothers." On an earlier David MacNaughton, a spokesman for Wallace, notes that until 1999 McCain Foods did not even hold board meetings. "Wallace and Harrison just ran the business," MacNaughton says. "When they had something to settle they talked to each other."

Still, Andrew McCain says that most family members object to a stipulation that shares in the family-controlled company be sold to the public. Said Andrew, "Why should I or any other shareholder be forced to liquidate my holdings in a private company—which has no need for the financing, and ready-made a ready-made of a public company to operate the concerns of one shareholder?" But according to Wallace's spokesman, he wants the company to go public for two reasons. Public investors "would impose a greater corporate governance on the company," says MacNaughton. Furthermore, the move would provide an orderly way for the company's many family shareholders to liquidate some of their holdings in the future.

About six months ago it appeared that Wallace and Harrison were coming close to reaching an agreement on the basis of the company. Harrison said Wallace's letter means that he would consider Wallace's proposal that Judge Stevenson's recommendations be followed. But other family shareholders objected to the share sale proposal and on Sept. 13, Andrew McCain tabled a motion to the family holding company's board that Wallace be removed from his job. The shareholders based accepted that motion and then called the firm's meeting of the family shareholders for a final vote. On Sept. 13, Wallace's sons, Michael and Scott, also filed a lawsuit against the company alleging that they are not receiving sufficient information to participate on McCain's board of directors.

It did work even Wallace McCain removed from his job, but his income will be to the courts. It would then be for the legal system to try to succeed where family has failed—in finding a formula for peace.

The feuding McCain brothers take their private fight into the public courts



Wallace heading to court, Harrison (inset). It's just painful.

But Andrew McCain insists that the majority of the family oppose this because they believe that taking the company public would harm their interests. "We intend to defend ourselves vigorously," he said. "We don't think the case has merit." (Although only 30 family members were to vote at the meeting on Sept. 13, there are as many as 50 family claims, including children and trusts who have a financial interest in the company.)

Wallace and Harrison are co-chief executive officers and have jointly managed the company for years. However, they each own only 34 per cent of the company's shares

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HANDS ACROSS THE WATER

What do a philosophy professor, an economist, a lawyer and a political professor have in common? In true McMaster style, they're working side by side on one of the largest and most complex issues environmental studies ever undertaken by a Canadian university. Their task — developing a "sustainable" action plan for Hamilton Harbour — will do more than revitalize a major urban industrial watershed. It will serve as a model of how political leaders, community activists and scientists can all solve their differences and come together for the greater public good.

More than 30 researchers from disciplines as diverse as sociology, biology, medicine and philosophy are studying the harbor and its system not in isolation of, but in concert with, the politicians who control it and the people who use it. Their research will examine policies, practices, personalities and attitudes as an attempt to balance the findings of years spent against the competing values of environmentalism, pollution, business interests and the ever-elusive citizen.



"This is not just about water quality and wildlife," says Mark Spornio Jones, McMaster political science professor and principal investigator of the project. "It's about human values, quality of life and harmony between local residents and their environment."

REALITY CHECK

McMaster has a reputation, down-to-earth approach that is shown in its use of its own people to get from the "why" level. It's a university where faculty members work in true partnership with the community — not because they can teach them a thing or two, but because they know they can learn from them.

Theresa Davidson
President & CEO, First City
Champion, First Foundation

REALITY CHECK

This is the task of a liberal education: to give a sense of the value of things, to help to determine, to help to create new concepts of a free community and through the combination of citizenship with liberty in individual circumstances, to enable men to give to human life their spiritual which some have shown that a can achieve."

Norman Howard, 1977, 11th
John B. Howard, 1977, 11th
John B. Howard, 1977, 11th

A REAL - WORLD PROBLEM TO REAL - WORLD PROBLEMS

New ideas, new books. That should be the refrain for new thinking at McMaster University, where a revolutionary new approach to teaching is changing the way students think and learn.

It's called "issue schools" and it's unlike anything ever offered by a North American university. Students in programs as diverse as biology, sociology, psychology and nursing of coming together to find creative solutions to real-world problems. Students design their own curricula, choose their own textbooks and teach their own classes as part of a field experience in broadening their skills and preparing them for a world where they

perform no longer fit traditional roles. This year saw the launching of McMaster's first three theme schools: one on international justice and human rights, the other examining new materials and their impact on society. For philosophy student Jeff Diering, the experience has been "an eye opener, to say the least. I've learned problem-solving skills, communication skills, research skills. I've also learned acceptance and tolerance."

It's a learning process, says engineer Jason Bragg, whose summer job involved experiments with organic-remediation compounds. "It's the difference between learning how to read a recipe book, and writing the book."



AMBASSADOR TO THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY



For Richard Heintz, founder of the Canadian arm of the private medical relief agency Doctors Without Borders, global competency is about more than competing for international jobs and markets. Says the 1987 graduate of McMaster's medical school,

whose international health efforts have taken him to more than 50 countries, "It's about finding solutions to world poverty and hunger and the economic public health problems they generate."

Spornio Jones, 1987, 11th



Spornio Jones, 1987, 11th

Thirteen years ago, Bruce Riquelme came to McMaster to study for a master's degree in civil, environmental, and earth engineering. He found a program, a rigorous blend of physical sciences, technology and the arts. Today the 33-year-old is putting the critical

thinking and problem-solving skills he learned to work for some of North America's top Fortune 500 companies. "It was the best decision I ever made. It taught me to challenge assumptions and my own beliefs."

RENAISSANCE MAN



HEALTH CARE WITH A HUMAN TOUCH

The ability to create life, prolong life and ease life through personal knowing, attention, compassion and high-tech technology has made it hard to define health care for today's health care professionals.

McMaster University, whose pioneering approach to health care education has earned it an international reputation, has been addressing such questions for more than 30 years. Its medical ethics courses were the first to be offered by a Canadian university. Its efforts to hospital the first in Canada to establish a clinical ethics committee. Now, McMaster is poised to conduct an another first — a formalized centre for health care ethics headed by a chair with 20 appointments in philosophy and medicine who will oversee the first full-fledged, cross-faculty bioethics program in Canada.

"Bioethics has provided us with options we never dreamed of 40 years ago," says Dr. John Wiers, chief of neurosurgery at McMaster and president of the Canadian Bioethics Society. "What we need are informed educators and health care professionals who have thought about these problems carefully and deeply."

Although funding is still being sought from outside sources, the program's goals are clear: to enhance the quality of bioethics research and training in Canada and, in the words of philosophy professor John Thomas, whose bioethics courses in the mid-70s laid the groundwork, "to further the practice of humane medicine."

For Christine Harrison, a 1998 McMaster graduate who now works as an ethicist at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, that means "ethical decisions and health care professionals are working together with patients and their families to sort out real-life moral dilemmas." "No other university has the level of collaboration we enjoy," says philosophy chair Will Kymlicka. "There is a real opportunity here to make a difference."

Christine Harrison, founding head of bioethics research



ENGINEERS WITH A CONSCIENCE

If you still think engineering is a career for someone whose pockets long for technical skills and short on social sciences, you haven't met Rachel Khoshdel.

A third-year student in McMaster's Engineering and Society program, Rachel is as interested in the social and human aspects of engineering as she is in the technical. "There are a lot of issues that we're going to confront engineers in the future. It won't be easy to keep my options open."

McMaster's trailblazing programs in Engineering and Society and Engineering and Management (which blend courses in a specific engineering discipline with in-depth studies in humanities, social sciences or business, then placing a new breed of socially and environmentally responsible engineers who are taking their place on the top ranks of corporate leaders around the country.

Graduates of the five-year programs become fully accredited engineers "but with the potential to do so much more," says Dean of Engineering Marianne Shook. Armed with skills in business communications, project management and teambuilding, they go on to successful careers in financial analysis, environmental engineering, new product development and industrial sciences.

"It's not enough anymore to turn out technically skilled engineers. Today's business clients demand that they also be well-informed, well-rounded and sensitive to societal needs," says Shook. "Understanding not just how to build a bridge, but how that bridge will impact on the environment and the quality of life of those who live near it — this is what separates the socially conscious engineer from one who is merely technically competent."

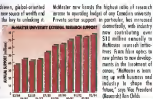
He points to Japan, where engineers typically lead many of the country's major corporations, and predicts North America will soon follow. "Engineering will be in the 1990s what MBA grads were in the 1980s."

Rachel Khoshdel: Part of a new breed



FUELING THE NEW ECONOMY

In today's technology-driven, global-oriented world, knowledge is the new source of wealth and power. And research is the key to unlocking it. McMaster University is at the cutting edge, an aggressive leader among Canadian universities in attracting research dollars that fuel the country's competitiveness and improve the quality of life for all Canadians. Research support for McMaster has more than doubled in the last decade, outpacing the national average, with the result that



SETTING THE STAGE FOR EXCELLENCE



for chemical engineering professor Phil Wood, fostering a climate in which students can "learn to learn" is what good teaching is all about. The winner of four major teaching awards, including the 24th Teaching Fellow and the Distinguished Governor's Award for

teaching excellence, Wood teaches students' progress weekly, places students at risk and uses everyday examples to advance the learning experience. Says one student: "His feeling of wanting to see students excel is unparalleled."



PHIL WOOD

LEADING THE INNOVATION REVOLUTION

Creative, innovative, forward thinking, cutting-edge — it's what every business needs to be to survive and thrive in a fiercely competitive global marketplace. But how do you begin, and where?

Finding out where you are and what comes next is the goal of McMaster's Innovation Research Centre, Canada's first university-based centre dedicated to conducting leading-edge research into the management of innovation. Building on McMaster's reputation as the "most innovative" university in Canada (according to Maclean's 1993 university rankings), the centre was established to stimulate cross-disciplinary research in innovation and provide a core of "innovative expertise" for business and industry today.

"There is no other business school in the country that has a third of its faculty engaged in management of innovation research," says centre director Christopher Barr. "We now have, for the first time, a student core of academics working full-time to develop, advanced-level state-of-the-art tools to the corporate world."

Already, more than 30 working papers have been produced on everything from leading innovative companies to managing university innovation to showcasing the best ideas for new products. The centre has also established a vital link with researchers outside the world and plans to roll out its findings to government, business and industry at an international conference to be held early next year.

Says marketing professor Robert Cooper, whose own research into why some products succeed and others fail is shaping things up at plants like Royal Delft, Air Canada, Northern Telecom and IBM: "As a business, you want to make sure you have it right, and you want to make sure you get it out there first. McMaster's Innovation Research Centre is the stimulus we need to identify the critical factors for success in the innovation age."

Robert Cooper: Accelerating the process for success.



Produced by the Innovation Research Centre, the Office of Public Information, Innovation University/Industry Ontario (PCI, 223-1140)

REALITY CHECK

"Knowledge is the most valuable international currency in our information-driven society. While new flow equity among human resources that increased property rates and returns. By fostering creativity, we push the location of discovery, create economic and social renewal and generate value for all in our society."

Caroline Kewley, Professor President, McMaster University

Business NOTES



Shopping at a Cokes outlet in Toronto: a looming battle of superstores.

ANOTHER DEBT WARNING

The Dominion Bond Rating Service, one of Canada's major credit-rating agencies, warned that Ottawa's and the provinces' debt levels are getting "a bit scary" and that even a strong recovery may not improve their finances. Although Ottawa and the provinces carry \$50 billion in interest charges on their total debts of \$780 billion. But even though the economy is rebounding, their deficits for this year will total another \$57 billion. The agency says that governments must start spending or risk further reductions in their credit ratings.

PAYING THE BOSS

A survey by the Toronto-based IOPMG Management Consulting shows that the salaries and bonuses of chief executives of 202 of Canada's largest companies averaged \$624,000 in 1993, up 10 per cent from 1992. But it added that a growing proportion of most chief executives' pay is now tied to company performance.

VULTURES SWOOP IN

An alliance of U.S.-based "vulture funds," which invest in shares of deeply distressed companies, ousted the board of directors of insolvent Toronto-based developer Cadillac Fairview. Cadillac owns more than 70 malls and office buildings, including the Pacific Centre in Vancouver, the Rialto Centre in Toronto and Place Montreal Trust in Montreal. But Cadillac's shares are virtually worthless because it has no hope of paying off all of its \$3.2 billion in debts. Still, by ousting their last, the vulture funds will try to extract a portion of the money owed to banks and bondholders.

BUILDING A HEADACHE

The Bank of Nova Scotia and the Toronto-Dominion Bank both announced that they plan to buy small, inactive insurance companies, allowing them to enter the insurance business while avoiding a lot of bureaucracy and paper. Banks are currently allowed to own insurance companies, but they are largely prohibited from selling insurance in their branches. They are waging a lobbying battle against the insurance industry in an effort to lift that restriction.

TWA CUTS FIRST CLASS

Trans World Airlines announced that it is eliminating first-class sections on all its transatlantic and coast-to-coast U.S. flights, the latest of several attempts to do so. Less than two years ago, airlines passengers now fly first-class tickets, which cost up to \$2,000 apiece for a round-trip to Europe.

A blockbuster book deal

It is a dark and worrisome prospect for many Canadian book publishers. But even worse of them concede that the deal may have a silver lining. Last week, Southern Line, the Toronto-based newspaper publisher and, as announced, that it plans to sell its treasury of Cokes (Book Stores division, Canada's largest book retailer), to its main rival, SmithBooks. Another company would disclose the selling price. Cokes has 250 stores, which operate under the name Cokes Book Company, Active Books and World's Biggest Bookstore. SmithBooks has 175 outlets. The new chain would have combined sales of about \$350 million. At the same time, SmithBooks president Larry Silverman promised that his company will invest \$20 million over the next three years building new warehouse stores in major cities to compete with the major book departments in U.S.-owned Wal-Mart and Price Club stores. "My confidence that there will be a major Canadian book retailer in five years has gone up tenfold," Silverman said.

But book publishers are less confident, to say the least. The two chains started merger talks over a year ago, and publishers have been trying to head off such a deal ever since, arguing that it would give the new chain between 25 and 40 per cent of the market, depending on what sales are included. Jackie Fleishman, executive director of the Canadian Book Publishers Council, said that her members fear that the new chain could use its clout to pressure them for better discounts and more favourable terms in trade agreements. But Fleishman added, "It's not all bad news. The new entity can build superstores and reduce large amounts of money out of book retailers." She said the Federal Bureau of Competition Policy, which will review the deal.

Normally, a jump in the unemployment rate would not be regarded as a sign of economic strength. But in the wake of reports earlier in August that the economy expanded at a third annual rate of 0.4 per cent in the second quarter of this year, the increase in the unemployment rate in August to 10.5 per cent from 10.2 per cent in July was hardly surprising to many economists. The number of jobs in the economy actually increased by 22,000 in August. But in job prospects have brightened in recent months. Canada's labour force has been increasing in size as discouraged workers and others who were sitting on the sidelines have started actively searching for work again.

A positive sign?

Normally, a jump in the unemployment rate would not be regarded as a sign of economic strength. But in the wake of reports earlier in August that the economy expanded at a third annual rate of 0.4 per cent in the second quarter of this year, the increase in the unemployment rate in August to 10.5 per cent from 10.2 per cent in July was hardly surprising to many economists. The number of jobs in the economy actually increased by 22,000 in August. But in job prospects have brightened in recent months. Canada's labour force has been increasing in size as discouraged workers and others who were sitting on the sidelines have started actively searching for work again.



Quebec's many degrees of separation

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

The single constant in Canada's evolution since 1960 is that Quebec has set the national agenda. Federal policies and the electoral fate of the bulk of its prime ministers held enough to prevent them from governing this country have swung on the reaction and support they received from French Canada.

The collaborative syndicate that has over-reached the province since in the wake of the Quiet Revolution, launched in 1960 by Jean Lesage, the dapper Quebec City lawyer who became the reluctant reformer of a society that had lagged into collective shrivel. What Lesage achieved was an unusual separation of church and state: the Roman Catholic clergy that had dominated Quebec since the 1600s were forced into the secular realm, while politicians took over the educational, health and welfare decisions.

Lesage died more than a long from a greaser. He received a personal staff of 38, including a chief of protocol complete with more cars and had his apartment vehicles re-engineered two weeks in advance. Three Montreal dailies once solemnly reported how the Prime Minister, as they called him, had been hit by a coupist in the middle finger of his right hand. Although he was considered a radical at home, Lesage was a client-federalist. He established a secret but close Gordon Johnson, then Ottawa's Clerk of the Privy Council, so the two once could discuss federal Quebec appointments and institutions before they were announced.

During one of our interviews, when I asked Lesage whether he considered himself a Quebecer or Canadian first, his jaw worked, his face flushed, and then he blurted out, "Well, I'm a Canadian. That's my nationality." One constant factor that long ago arenting still haunts us: "If Confederation fails," he told me, "it will not be because Quebecers were wrong, but because the way to keep Quebec in Confederation has been found."

That, of course, has been the quest of

'If Confederation fails, it will not be because Quebec separates, but because the way to keep Quebec in Confederation hasn't been found'

Canadian politicians ever since, and, in the end, it defined Lesage himself because he tried to become a statistician before it was too late to cease being an agitator. It was during Lesage's tenure that I first met one of his assistants, a stout chap called Jacques Pariseau who, when I walked into his office, was dozing over at his desk on a fit of belly-popping laughter over Lesage's prevarications. When I asked him why, Pariseau explained that the premier had just ordered him to write a speech for a meeting he had that night at Levis across the river, "specifically designed to impress Harold Wilson." (Wilson was then prime minister of Britain, and Lesage was looking for British parliamentary approval to absorb the Quebec separatist's paper chamber.)

After knowing Pariseau for a while, I was in his impossible assignment. I discussed the day's events with the resident barfly at the Chateau Frontenac's La Pile de Perles, an out-of-office policy by the name of Daniel Johnson. Nobody took the Union Nationale appointee's leader very seriously at the time. Johnson (the father of his Liberal successor) answered my overbearing Quebecer-or-Canadian question slightly more thoughtfully than Le-

sage, whom he defeated in 1986. "If I have to choose, I would choose Quebec first, because that's my duty. With a name like Johnson I could have rejected my children in English but I'm thinking of the ray in my mirror whose name is L'Esprit." Since politics in the past have been ready to save Confederation even at the expense of Quebec, I want to develop Quebec, even at the expense of Confederation. But I'll do so later."

And he never was, despite his fierce political war cry demanding "equality and justice" "He would go to a meeting of Toronto bond dealers and tell them, 'Quebec won't separate if we can live in Canada as a group.' Then he'll return to Quebec he would boldly declare 'Union Nationale can live in Canada as a group, we'll separate.' Journalists would submit one statement from the other, come up with zero, and Johnson would promptly at last, the press for misinterpreting his position. Johnson was a charmer, mainly because he didn't take himself very seriously, but I've never forgotten a couple of his wiser observations: "When the French-Canadian raised fists in freedom," he said, "there too will be its homeland." When I asked him to define his political ideology, he gave me the only honest answer to that silly question I've ever received: "I'm loose," he said, "in politics it's very dangerous to have any philosophy. In a democracy you should settle the problems that exist, instead of sitting out to prove your philosophical death."

When I went back to Quebec City a few years later to interview Jean Jacques Bertrand the Union Nationale premier was succeeded by Jean-Jacques. I found a moderate devoid of stress whose main concern seemed to be how his Middlesex bond issue would be received by Wall Street. When I asked my inevitable question, he replied, "Well, in a Quebecer first in matters of provincial jurisdiction and a Canadian first in other areas." (No wonder he was defeated six months later.)

Demanded a successor, Robert Bourassa, was the third argument seeking Quebec's salvation through economic prosperity. For him any truly serious about enlightening the battle of the Plains of Abraham. When I asked him about the measure of his Conservative, he didn't answer directly. "I've been told," he confessed, "that I represent Quebec's last chance, and to some extent it's true. I'll talk to my relations with Ottawa, people will say Bourassa was well prepared and rational, and Trudeau is also well prepared and rational. If these two guys can't make the system work, it's impossible. And they could be right."

They were. Looking back at Quebec's history, I have great sympathy for the younger Daniel Johnson's retreat from his initial position that he was "first and foremost a Canadian," so his later declaration that he could "imagine being a Quebecer without being a Canadian" — he would not conceive being a Canadian without being a Quebecer. That slippery statement was finally grounded in Quebec's century-old oil tradition.

AS LONG AS THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE FLUENT IN SCOTCH...

There will always be a CHIVAS REGAL.

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On the electric circuit

A s deputy prime minister in British Columbia's Conservative government, Erik Nielsen entered the automotive "video age" for his taciturn style and crosshatched jawline: a domestic government spokesman. Now comes the new Mr. Nielsen, the talkative and very accessible fellow who has been traveling across Canada to spread the good word about his new passion: electric cars. Demonstrating an electrically powered 1996 Ford Escort, Nielsen has met with federal, provincial and municipal officials lining up to see who will bring that the first electric car to the streets. The shift from polluting, gasoline-fueled vehicles to zero-emission electric cars tracks and buses—on that, even skeptics Nielsen is not alone in that belief. Starting in 1998, California and perhaps as many as 12 other states will enforce laws that, in effect, require auto manufacturers to begin producing and sell zero-emission electrically powered vehicles (ZEVs). In Canada, at least two provinces are evaluating ZEV—and officials in British Columbia say they may decide to follow California's lead and mandate their use. According to Nielsen, the only reason that North Americans are not already driving electric cars is that "they haven't seen them at drive-thrus, and they don't know how good they can be in your pocketbook."

That is the buzz among electric car enthusiasts, environmentalists and officials in some of the most smoke-driven parts of the continent. But critics—and many of them sell gasoline or natural gas-powered cars—do not feel the hype. They point out that today's electric cars perform badly in cold weather, and they argue that as warm North American regions embrace electrically charged cars, the rest of the continent will be left behind. And although the Big Three North American automakers have developed electric vehicles, they insist that it is too soon to begin producing cars and vans that will perform far below the standards of gasoline-powered vehicles and cost much more—Ford's electric-powered Escort was eight times as expensive as much as a gas-burning counterpart.

According to the skeptics, the main difficulty in producing EVs stems from slow progress in the development of better batteries. Unlike advertising a ubiquitous battery-powered battery that just keeps going and doing, most

EVs equipped with conventional lead-acid batteries can only be driven for about 300 km before their batteries have to be recharged—a process that can take 20 hours. And they wear out with normal use in about three years. Moreover, the batteries required for an electric vehicle are as heavy as much as 1,400 pounds, although every one agrees that they will ultimately be replaced by a lighter generation with twice the range and a shorter recharge time.

Pressure to produce EVs began mounting on General Motors, Ford and Chrysler in September, 1995, when California—determined to reduce the Los Angeles area's notorious smog—announced regulations requiring sharply reduced lead emissions. The new rules will also force automakers to ensure that two per cent of the cars and trucks they sell in 1998 go all zero-emission—a requirement that currently can only be met by EVs. The number of EVs specifically mandated by California will increase to 10 per cent of the total state mix by the year 2002. Meanwhile, the push to electrically has its critics. "We think governments are doing things the wrong way around," says Chris Babin, corporate program manager for Ford of Canada in Oakville, Ont., "by forcing production of a car before the demand is there. EVs have a lot of shortcomings."

However, another law may create that demand. Currently, 12 municipalities across the District of Columbia are working with the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Big Three automakers over the possibility of adopting California's emissions standards—with the decision on EVs being left to each state. Two of the latest states in the region, New York and Massachusetts, have already adopted regulations similar to California's for EVs starting in 1998.

Canada may not be far behind. With concern growing over smog levels in its heavily industrialized British Columbia, the province's government may also join the move to electric. In May, Premier Mike Harcourt's NDP government was accused of legislation giving it the power to regulate rebadge and sell standards. "The legislation would allow us to do similar things as California, such as telling auto manufacturers they have to sell a certain number of zero-emission vehicles," said Bob McDevitt, a spokesman for the provincial environment ministry. "And that's the decrease in



Erik Nielsen with his new passion: spreading the gospel.

leading to." Meanwhile, in Quebec, Premier Daniel Johnson announced last month the appropriation of \$110 million for a program to develop an electric car. "Cars propelled by electricity," said the statement from the premier's office, "will form the basis of a huge industry within the next few years."

In his new incarnation as an apostle of battery-powered vehicles, Erik Nielsen is acting as the Canadian representative of U.S. Electric Vehicle Inc., an 18-year-old firm based in Santa Rosa, Calif.

The company is capable of manufacturing or converting to electric drive several hundred vehicles a month—mainly for fleet use by utilities and other customers. Nielsen first introduced its first electric EV, Nielsen, 70, who quit politics in 1986, was turned on to EVs when his niece's brother, Leslie, was working on the 1994 film *Speed*. Leslie, an ardent environmentalist, was charged up about the electrically powered sports car he drove in the movie. Inspired, Nielsen decided to visit U.S. Electric's headquarters and wound up as the firm's Canadian agent. Nielsen is also a U.S. Electric spokesman in Kalamazoo, Hawaii, where he presides over the water.

On the road this summer, Nielsen drove a diesel-powered conversion vehicle and found his electric Escort as a "better" way of a conversion, he admits. The reason, U.S. Electric does not yet make a vehicle as big as Nielsen's EV, which contains both accommodation and office space for his computer, his machine and other office equipment. Nielsen began his conversion late last March to promote EVs at the Globe & Mail international environmental technology exposition in Vancouver, then drove to Ottawa where he spent four weeks lobbying federal officials and business firms.

Nielsen hopes that several branches of the federal government may decide to switch to EVs. Later, he headed west again to make his pitch in provincial and municipal offices in the Prairies. While touting electric cars for their environmental advantages and low operating costs, Nielsen acknowledges that there are drawbacks, especially in winter. "Cold weather can limit us of about 50 per cent of the battery power," he says. "These cars aren't intended to be the same as a standard automobile." Like other enthusiasts, Nielsen agrees that electric cars are efficient and inexpensive to operate for short trips, making good

second cars in two-car families or serving as delivery and utility vehicles. "The one that I'm driving costs about four cents a mile to operate," says Nielsen. "An opposed to a gasoline car, which costs about 12 cents a mile."

The Big Three automakers, who face the prospect of producing thousands of EVs for the 1998 model year, say they are going to be expensive and will likely find little favor with the public. Among the EVs currently being reviewed:

- **General Motors Impact.** The first of the Big Three to produce an EV, GM unveiled the specially designed two-seater in January, 1990. At the time, company officials said the Impact would go into production by mid-1995 at a retail price of about \$14,000. Citing uncertain public acceptance, GM last year postponed plans to begin production.

- **Chrysler 30 Electric.** Nissan Technicians at Chrysler's Windsor, Ont., assembly plant recently finished converting about 50 Camaros and Voyagers from gasoline to electric power—at a cost of about \$13,000 each. The cars were currently being shipped to power utilities and other firms in the United States.

- **Ford Escort van.** Ford's current fleet of 34 electrically powered vans, now on lease to 32 U.S. firms, have been troubled by battery problems. Based on a European model of the popular Ford Escort, the Escort was made expensive if there were any available yet for the commercial market. Over reason, the power plant, Ford says a gel lead-acid battery supplied by a Mississippi, Ont., firm that costs about \$6,000.

Because of the high costs and limited performance, the Big Three insist that the time is not ripe to force EVs on the marketplace. "We're concerned about governments mandating these electric vehicles until the industry has been able to develop a product that will truly work for the consumer," says Mike Green, Ontario's deputy premier and General Motors of Canada Ltd. Despite that, as more corporations and government agencies gain experience with EVs, support for them is growing. Last year, the University of Ontario, which has been working on electrically powered cars for more than 10 years, received a \$1 million grant from the province to develop a small electric car. The grant is currently being used to North American firms and government agencies, including the City of Ottawa, Canada Post and power utilities in British Columbia and Nova Scotia. The results so far have been encouraging, says the company's director, Bill Adams, who argues that electric cars will find its way into acceptance in North America. "It will be a revolution," says Adams. "It's up to us to help it, because it's not a mere improved energy efficiency and improved air quality demands it." If Adams is right, more and more North American motorists may find an EV in their future.

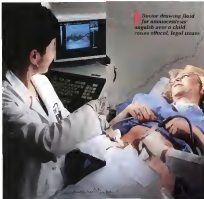
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JUSTICE

Should someone pay?

Few events are greeted with such a polar reaction as *pay or not pay* in the birth of a child. Will the baby be healthy, or will serious physical defects drastically alter the family's life? *Joseph Sanders*, a nurse, and her husband, Robert, a doctor, lost that gamble when their son, Lew, was born on March 12, 1990. Afflicted with a severe case of Down's syndrome, Lew, now 6, is also deaf and visually impaired; he is still in diapers, cannot eat solid food and requires constant care. Such tragedies are not rare, but the Sanderses' response is, soon after their son's birth, the Winnipeg couple sued their doctor. Helga Sichert, alleging that she failed to advise them of the results of a prenatal blood test conducted by *Joseph Sanders*, from 33. To what has been widely described as one of the first cases of "wrongful birth" in Canada, the Sanderses say they would have terminated the pregnancy had they known of their son's condition. "This child has no self-worth and is a danger to himself," says their lawyer, Robert Tupper. "They don't want to put him in an institution. They love their child, but the child is very expensive and they believe they should be compensated for a situation that could have been prevented."

The Sanderses' case—which came to public attention in a *Winnipeg Free Press* article last week and is expected to go to trial in November—may be breaking new legal ground but it has also opened a Pandora's box of ethical, legal and economic issues. Advances in genetic research now allow doctors to test prenatal samples for hundreds of inherited conditions, ranging from Down's syndrome and spina bifida—a defect of the spine—on cystic fibrosis and Tay-Sachs disease, a devastating brain disorder. To insure their odds of having a healthy child, many elite pregnant women are availing themselves of such tests—and the choices they offer. About 30 per cent of Canadian women who discover they are carrying a Down's syndrome child choose to end their pregnancy. But some new tests do not provide definitive answers, only a range of possibilities that could vary from a severe handicap to none at all. That, in turn, has raised new questions about the economic value of a life, and who should pay for one blighted by handicaps that could have been foreseen. "There are already too many cases of these cases," and *Robert Tupper*, a professor of philosophy at the University of Victoria and a frequent director of ethics for the Canadian Medical



Down's drawing fluid for amniocentesis—analysis over a child raises ethical, legal issues

Winnipeg parents allege 'wrongful birth'

Amniocentesis "That is because there is an increasing awareness that quality of life plays an important role in making decisions about life itself." Incapable, the prenatal test—known as alpha fetoprotein (AFP)—that has caused so much grief for the Sanderses and their doctor was designed to make such decisions easier. Although not conclusive, the simple blood test can determine whether a woman has a higher than normal risk of having a child with genetic defects. It, like other tests, such as ultrasound scans, which is more expensive, more accurate and carries a risk of miscarriage—may then be advised. According to the Sanderses' claim, *Joseph Sanders* APT results showed a risk of Down's syndrome of one in 350—about the same level of risk that would be normal for a woman aged 37 or 38 years old. (The risk of Down's syndrome rises sharply after the age of 35.) But her doctor, the claim says, told her only that the results were "normal." That

constitutes a failure to inform, say the Sanderses, and amounts to professional negligence. According to Tupper, there are at least one Canadian case of this type. One of the closest, he says, is a 1992 judgment in British Columbia, which awarded damages to a woman whose child was injured by a doctor during a failed attempt at abortion.

requires constant—and costly—attention. "It's exhausting taking care of him," says Deora, who lives in Saskatoon on Cape Breton Island. "She also gives us an extra couple of hours means 10 times what you get from an average child. I think the idea of wrongful birth is terrible. You take your chances when you get pregnant—we all know that." (After this article, others say, parents should receive more public assistance in caring for disabled children. "Wrongful birth is the wrong way to deal with it," says Suzanne Kestel-Sorenson, a former member of the Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies and director of the Office of Catholic Family Life for the Toronto archdiocese. "When the courts are the only way to get extra money to care for the child, a request for abortion of the period.")

But if the Sanderses' case has touched a nerve with many Canadians, there is much more to come. As prenatal testing becomes more common, and the defects it can reveal more numerous, both doctors and their patients will have an avalanche of conflicting new information. *Joseph Sanders*, an obstetrician at The Toronto Hospital who specializes in maternal fetal medicine, says the trend to prenatal testing is to provide more information earlier in a pregnancy, to a wider group of women. One new technique now permits doctors to probe each chromosome individually for certain defects associated with that chromosome, as well as to assess the total number of chromosomes, without the time-consuming need to grow cultures of genetic material. Another highly experimental technique was to pinpoint at least blood within a mother's blood to detect abnormalities.

Already, however, there are thorny new problems with early testing. *Joseph Sanders* Since much of the information has never been gathered before, researchers are sometimes unsure whether they have found a problem or just a previously unknown and normal variation in development. "Unusual testing is so good now that we are sometimes unsure of what we are seeing," she says. "It poses counselling difficulties, because the parent must be informed there may be a problem, yet the terrible anxiety a problem may turn out to be nothing." (That dilemma is further complicated by recent studies in profiles. When virtually every genetic defect can be pinpointed before birth, will parents begin to despise perfect, and not merely healthy, children? *Chris Hansen*, an obstetrician and director of the fetal diagnosis unit at Women's Hospital in Winnipeg, describes current advances as a double-edged sword. "While the next 10 years, we will be able to read human chromosomes like a phone book," he says. "We do not have to deal with eugenics [ways to improve human through genetic selection] yet, but we are on the brink." If these issues are brought with difficulty now, the future promises to be infinitely more complex.

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Circle of justice

Northern villagers take part in sentencing

Court officials, a Catholic missionary, a schoolteacher and 15 first villagers sat in a circle in a new, freshly painted schoolhouse in Kangiqsujuaq, an isolated community 1,800 km north of Montreal. In their midst sat two 18-year-olds who had pleaded guilty to setting the fire that killed the schoolhouse; the current one was built to replace. Also seated in the circle was Quebec Court Judge Jean Dutil, the gravel-voiced travelling justice for the vast northern Quebec region known as Nunavut. "Everyone here is equal," Dutil said as he opened the proceedings. "We are here to discuss why the fire happened, and to decide what should be done with these boys."

With the help of an Inuit interpreter, the participants began a wide-ranging, often heated discussion that lasted more than six hours. When it was over, Dutil accepted the circle's recommendations: two years probation as well as 12 hours a week of community work and regular attendance at school in the coming year. The judge added one other provision: he ordered the youths to issue a

public apology to their community circle. "I think people will be happy with this decision," said Miesse Napiagook, a 43-year-old village councillor who took part in the circle. "Nobody wanted to see these boys go to jail."

The sentencing circle in Kangiqsujuaq, a village of 450 people, was the fourth that the 62-year-old Dutil has tried in his three years in Nunavut—a remote covering 228,000 square miles that is home to about 8,000 Inuit. Trials are still held the conventional way, with a presiding judge and testimony under oath. And although Dutil will still be the final say in sentencing circles, local leaders often have about the impact the criminal has had on the community and have a say in naming out punishments. "This is an experiment," says Dutil. "It's a way to help me make sense of what's like in pre-sentencing reports prepared by probation officers." As such, the use of sentencing circles did not require any legislative change. "A judge can use any moral and legal canon he feels is



Dutil: many 'any' moral and legal canons he finds acceptable sentences

acceptable sentence," he says. But Dutil cautions that only some types of cases are appropriate, and he would not use a sentencing circle for a sexual assault case, for example. "We must avoid putting too much burden on community members," says Dutil. Sentencing circles are now used in several Canadian provinces partly in response to

growing future demands for involvement in the justice system. In the Yukon, where they have been employed regularly since January 1992, a study of recidivism rates is just under way. But Judge Barry Stuart of the Yukon territorial court says that "people are clearly consuming fewer and less serious crimes after the community has dealt with them." Even more important, though, Stuart says the circles are "pulling communities together to deal with things that are their responsibility."

In Nunavut, the sentencing circles were introduced, in part, as an attempt to address what an Inuit Justice Task Force last year identified as a key problem in the legal system: an emphasis on confrontation and formalization of guilt rather than on "restorative justice" in the traditional Inuit way. According to

George Kooruk, an elder in Kangiqsujuaq, the largest Inuit village, violence was once rare in native communities. Born 64 years ago in an area now the present-day village of Inuvik, Kooruk grew up as part of a small, tight-knit group of four or five families that spent summers in tents along the coast and winters in igloos in the interior. When disputes arose, he says, it was up to the individuals involved to find a solution. "If it couldn't be resolved," adds Kooruk, "individuals were told to leave and come back when they were ready to live peacefully. My own family picked up and moved away from the others once after my father was in a dispute. We spent the whole winter alone before coming back."

In the 1960s, however, more and more Inuit started working in permanent villages, there was increasing development in the north and alcohol became more readily available. "That was the start of all the trouble," says Spike Adams, the 65-year-old store manager in Kangiqsujuaq. The violent crime rate in Nunavut is now nearly 600 percent higher than in the rest of the province. Adams's stepbrother, Johnny, the 36-year-old mayor of Kangiqsujuaq, says that the situation is often exaggerated. "The sky isn't falling here," he says. But he concedes that "we have many individuals that are just going back and forth to jail." And he says that they are not receiving help and "they just keep committing crimes." Adds the mayor: "Our society has been completely changed in only 25 years, so there are understandable problems of adjustment."

Judith Dutil means that the sentencing circles "are not a panacea—it's just a new way of helping people." But Napiagook says that she would like to see more of them. The boys who burned down the school in Kangiqsujuaq were afraid they would go to jail, she says. "I hope that they stay good," she adds. "This community already has too many people that are always going back and forth to prison."

MARK NEMETH with MARK GARDNER in Kangiqsujuaq

Healthy Bites

THE FRENCH PARADOX

JAVA JUBILATION

In spite of risk factors which resemble our own (cigarette-smoking, blood cholesterol and blood pressure levels, etc.), in France, people die of heart disease at a rate 2 to 3 times less than we do.

Studies show that while the French have a high fat diet, they consume less fat and prepackaged foods, and therefore less hydrogenated vegetable fat. They eat much more fresh fruit and vegetables and only 2% regularly skip a daily meal, as compared to 20% of us. They also take more time to enjoy their meals - enjoy with a glass of red wine - and aren't such glib riders about eating.

But how does this add up to less heart disease? Stay tuned.



Is the pleasure principle a factor in reducing heart disease?

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

Instead of trying to be a chip off the old block, young boys today, it seems, are preferring to model themselves after the lean, muscled forms they see on TV and in magazines. A recent study of 8 to 12 year olds showed that 31% of boys had already tried to lose weight and more than a third exercised "to control their weight." The consequences?

Milk Pro-Teen.



Dealing during the growing years can impede optimum growth, reduce resistance to disease and delay puberty. Eating well is a lot more on target than adolescent muscle mania.

- 10 cups of broccoli
- 15 cups of kidney beans
- 4 cups of oatmeal
- 40 small potatoes with butter...

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SEX SHOW
with Joe Jockelson
SUNDAY 8pm-10pm

THE SUNDAY NIGHT
SEX SHOW
with Joe Jockelson
SUNDAY 8pm-10pm

Reiner Schwarz
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SUNDAY 8pm-10pm



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BODY AND SOUL

A tanned, ruddy-faced teacher sits cross-legged on a lotus in the basement lounge of the Shivananda Yoga Vedanta Centre in downtown Toronto. Leathery skin, a serene expression to yoga last January when she began training for the 1994 world tradition championships to be held in New Zealand in November. Although her coach had designed a five-hour-a-day training regimen, the 50-year-old Drury felt that the program did not include enough emphasis on flexibility. Since she took up yoga, she says, her breathing, reflexes, diet and endurance have all improved. "In yoga, when you're lying on the floor you try to concentrate on your breathing and focus your mind," explains Drury. "I try now in my competition to get that same kind of focus, and to let go of everything else that's floating around—including what other competitors are doing."

Drury is one of a growing number of Canadians, including musicians, business executives and athletes, who now practice yoga. Among them are broadcaster Ralph Bernstein, fellow *Ottawa Citizen* columnist Ralph Bernstein, former actress and model's 60-year-old sister Andrea Belland and *Star* Radio singer-guitar player Greg Sorber. In the United States, former National Basketball Association star Kareem Abdul-Jabbar is a vocal proponent of yoga, pointing to its emphasis on suppleness, cardiovascular and breathing rather than brute strength. In addition, some doctors recommend yoga for patients who suffer back and neck pain. The *MH's* Sex Jose Sandoval has even incorporated yoga stretching exercises in their fitness routines to reduce the risk of serious muscle injuries. Yoga, which carries "union" or "harmony" in Sanskrit, has its

Class of the Titans
Kelajaya Yoga Centre:
stretching exercises

To many North Americans, of course, any discussion of yoga conjures up memories of the late 1960s, when hippies with long beads were attracted as much by the mysticism of the sacred gurus as by its physical benefits. But in the 1990s, yoga is going mainstream. Beginners can now learn yoga from a Jose Sandoval course video or by enrolling in classes, which typically cost about \$8 for a one-to-two-hour session. They can also choose from a variety of styles of teaching, from those that emphasize the more traditional meditative

roots in the Hindu culture of India, where evidence of yoga practices dates back 6,000 years. Over the centuries, it developed both as a philosophy—which holds that the mind, body and spirit are inseparable—and as a system of exercises to improve physical health. The exercises consist of more than 1,000 carefully controlled moves and poses, or asanas, which are designed to develop balance, flexibility and increased strength. Equally important are the breathing exercises, intended to focus con-

sciousness, to less mystical forms such as *Ashly* (power) or "power" yoga, which provides an aerobic-style workout by requiring practitioners to perform a series of poses in rapid sequence.

According to Toronto-based physiotherapist and yoga instructor Olive Proter, athletes often seek out yoga sooner than people who do not live by their bodies. That is because most sports involve repetitive use of specific parts of the body, which can result in overly stressed muscles. By stretching those muscles, yoga can prevent injury and improve flexibility. Many baby boomers, now advancing into middle age, are also attracted to the gentler form of workout offered by classical styles of yoga. Unlike *ashtanga*, yoga postures can be practiced at any pace, regardless of an individual's strength or cardiovascular conditioning.

Abdul-Jabbar attributes his remarkably long 20-year basketball career to the benefits he derived from yoga. "I wouldn't have played as long as I had if I hadn't done it," he told *Melrose's* "Basketball is a game of skill, and either you have it or you don't. But being able to maintain the skills is directly related to yoga in any case." The former Los Angeles *Laker* star credits still that yoga "really helped me first body and range of motion, and I just sit in a position. But I did not get it. It also helped me use my strength more efficiently." Although he is a

new retired from basketball, Abdul-Jabbar still practices *Ashtanga*, a physically demanding form of yoga that is gaining in popularity among elite athletes. Still, he says that some of the athletes he has introduced to the practice "bail out" after 45 minutes because they are not prepared to reach such intense workouts.

Other styles of yoga appeal to people who are seeking less strenuous forms of exercise. CBC broadcaster Bernstein says that he particularly appreciates yoga as an alternative to aerobics in aerobic classes, he says, "everybody starts at each other's fingertips begins," while it breathes (the "gentle" event probably is the only one to cycling studios) and great for everything they are worth. "Ashtanga" says he prefers the more relaxed atmosphere of yoga classes. Gail Turner, wife of former prime minister John Turner, also abandoned a vigorous aerobic regimen in favor of yoga. After she developed a back problem several years ago, her chiropractor suggested yoga. Since then, she says she has been virtually pain-free.

Yoga's popularity is rising as it becomes less esoteric, more physical and more adapted to the North American lifestyle. One advantage is that it can be practiced virtually anywhere, on a rubber mat in the home or through classes at yoga centres, the local YMCA, university gymnasiums and as part of five-hour fitness programs in corporate buildings. The Canadian Institute of Yoga, for one, offers yoga classes to its employees at two Toronto locations.

Yogara, a form of yoga that emphasizes posture and improved muscle control, is already widely practiced in the United States and is rapidly gaining popularity in Canada. It attracts everyone from doctors of chiropractic to students—anyone who holds the flexibility and precision involved in performing each posture. "Yogara is very specific, very of this world," says Marlene Marlene, senior teacher at Yoga Centre Toronto. She adds, "It doesn't involve intense and complex" (instructors receive at least three years of rigorous training, and with further training can learn how to create individualized programs for people with a wide range of problems, including multiple sclerosis and arthritis).

At first glance, the downtown Toronto studio looks as well equipped as a lecture chamber—although the exercises are directly opposite themselves while they work up a sweat. On a Thursday afternoon, 30 people pull away while Marlene directs in a loud, booming voice. She helps one woman with a back injury support herself up and down in a swinging-like stretching of ropes. The rest of the class stretches in various positions with the aid of props such as ropes, handkerchiefs, wooden blocks and bolsters.

At the Shivananda Yoga Centre, a secularized form of yoga takes a different form, with greater emphasis on meditation and diet. The instructor begins sweet-scented incense before the class begins. Behind her on an altar, the bronze statue of Shiva gods stare out into the room. Then, in a soft-spoken voice, she leads the class through a series of asanas, or yoga postures, which are performed in a series of poses. Finally, the instructor bows in prayer and ends by chanting "om namah," a traditional yoga mantra signifying universal energy.

In Montreal, Westmont real estate developer Robert Levesque practices yoga postures and breathing exercises for his yoga as much more than a form of exercise. "Yoga, he says, is "a spiritual quest that everyone should go on." His reasons for taking that journey are clear: "Because if you're not here on earth just to grow around downtown, drink beer and work at the office. You can do that, but more important, you're here to flourish as a human being."

But whatever their reasons for taking up yoga, advocates agree that the benefits are overwhelming. Traci Lee Drury notes that many fitness enthusiasts spend small fortunes on sophisticated gear such as racing bicycles and wet suits, even though their most valuable piece of equipment—and the only one that cannot be replaced—is their own body. "For its adherents, yoga is a way to keep the equipment running smoothly."

DIANNA DALLOU



Yoga is
gaining in
popularity as
it becomes
less esoteric

Backpack Calendar

A harvest of fall events includes cowboy recitals and wine tastings

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sept. 20-Oct. 9 Okanagan Wine Festival, Penticton and surrounding area. More than 500 different activities welcoming the harvest, including wine tasting, a pig roast, hayrides and bullion rides.
Oct. 1 Greater Victoria Fire Safety Fair. A buckshot-style competition between teams of local celebrities headlines the event, also fire and traffic safety shows for children.

ALBERTA

Oct. 1 World Confederation Pumpkin Weigh-Off, Stony Lake. Pumpkin growers vie to weigh the heaviest record of 400.5 lb. Competitors can also seek glory in the squash and watermelon categories.
Oct. 6-14 Calgary International Organ Festival. The grand finale prior to the second annual classical competition is \$10,000. The eight 14 artists, representing five nations, are drawn from an annual field of 12 from 20 countries.

SASKATCHEWAN

Sept. 23-25 Cowboy Poetry Gathering, Maple Creek. The poet, singer and storyteller will be accompanied by exhibits of hand-drawn cowboy gear such as saddles and bridle leathers, as well as trained dog competitions.
Oct. 8-10 Chateau Festival, Lacombe. Locally made chocolate and wine and sheep prize ribbons at the 36th annual event, which also features a goose shoot and an occupational service.

MANITOBA

Sept. 20-Oct. 1 Canadian Heritage Festival, Brandon. Representatives of 20 ethnic groups from the area showcase their arts, crafts, foods, dances and songs.

ONTARIO

Sept. 16-25 Niagara Grace and Wine Festival, St. Catharines and surrounding area. A very Catholic in background—the winery tours and wine tastings are interspersed with a Friday (Sept. 19) Prime, penicillin and caviar. A highlight: the Mayor's lunch at the Grand Grape Stomp.
Oct. 1-2 Deer Trail Studio Tour, Elliot Lake. Local artists and artisans display their works at 15 locations along a 100-km route (if) made through spectacular autumn colors.
Oct. 22-25 International Festival of Authors, Toronto. The 15th year of public readings and book signings by some of the world's best-known and most popular writers. This year's lineup includes Jackie Barnes from



Opening the Barnes door

Art lovers have snipped up more than 300,000 tickets, at \$15 each, for a chance to view 83 rarely seen impressionist, Post-impressionist and modernist works going on exhibit this week at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) in Toronto. And according to gallery spokesman Rob Berry, that critics from *Rolling Stone* to *Classics* (Sept. 16) have given the Barnes Foundation "the highest rating exhibit in AGO history."

The strong demand for tickets to the British, Joyce Carol Oates of the United States and Canada's W. T. de Mille.

QUEBEC

Sept. 15-Oct. 22 22nd Quebec Festival of Lanterns, Montreal Botanical Gardens. The ancient festival is celebrated in the Chateau Gardens with 500 brightly colored lanterns in differ-

Works by Mondrian (top) and Van Gogh's converted collection



ent sizes and shapes, all handmade in Shanghai by skilled artists.

Sept. 23-Oct. 2 Autumn Dream, Bide-Sci-Pole. The fourth edition of the North Shore fall festival features live music, comedy, dance, art, a photo contest and costume parade events.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Sept. 17-18 U.S. Civil War Re-enactments, Niagara Landing Historical Settlement. Dressed in period costume, performers recreate the experiences of the thousands of Canadians who fought with the Union Army.
Oct. 1-4 Oyster Festival, Moncton. Oyster supper and dancing contest.

NOVA SCOTIA

Sept. 28 Beach Sweeps, Nova Scotia Island Festival, Pictou. By taking clean beaches, volunteers—who should bring gloves and lunch—get a day in the beach or "beachfront" competition.
Oct. 1-2 Holes Creighton Folklore Festival, Halifax. Music, songs and dance

show, which will continue until Dec. 31, will come as no surprise to anyone familiar with the quirky history of the Barnes Foundation. The renowned collection of works by Picasso, Mondrian, Van Gogh, Matisse and other modernists was assembled between 1912 and 1935 by pharmaceutical magnate Albert Barnes of Philadelphia. In his will, he stipulated that the over 2,000 objects he had accumulated were never to leave the gallery he had set up near Philadelphia in 1925. As a result, relatively few people have seen what critics say is one of the most important art collections ever assembled. By 1991, however, the Barnes gallery was badly in need of extensive renovations. To pay for the repairs, the foundation's trustees agreed a grant of \$10 million to a group of Philadelphia art lovers for the right to sell part of the collection on an instant national money-crazy tour. The AGO was just one of six galleries worldwide chosen to display the exhibit, for a fee of \$375,000. In all, AGO curators hope that about 500,000 people will take advantage of the opportunity to see some of the past greats' works of art ever created.

boasting the collector of Maritime folk music, who helped preserve more than 4,000 songs in English, French, Gaelic, Manx and German.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Oct. 8 Harvest Home Festival, Orwell Center, Hensley Village. Potato harvesting and other pressing demonstrations.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Sept. 29-Oct. 3 Trinity Conception Fair, Harbour Grace. The annual fair of arts and crafts is highlighted by the Miss Newfoundland Pageant, acrobatics and step-dancing contests and a baby contest.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Oct. 7-10 Delta Drive, Inuvik. A traditional fall event featuring the crowning of the Delta Prince and Princess, honey-bucket races, a midnight dance and car races.

YUKON

Sept. 23-27 17th Paintings from the Klondike Expedition, Whitehorse. An exhibit of works inspired by a 1901 expedition of white-throated Canadian artists to Klondike National Park.

NEXT

A sampling of upcoming diversions

MOVIES

The River Wild Meryl Streep turns white-water diver into a chilling thriller—Deliverance with a twist.
October Renee Zellweger's controversial restaging of Quebec's October Crisis. (Hint: the terrorists are not the villains.)
Ed Wood Director Tim Burton reunites with Johnny Depp (Edward Scissorhands) in a biopic of ex-husband Adam Sandler.
Exit to Eden S and M-lite based on the soft-core novel by Anne Rampburg better known as vampire-lover Anne Rice.
The Professional Gary Oldman and Danny Aiello star in a suspense thriller.



VIDEO

Backbeat The competing tale of Stuart Sutcliffe, the fifth Beatle, who played with the band during its early days in Hamburg.
The Paper Deadline pressure cranks up the drama at a New York City daily.
The Prince and the Pauper and **The Five Star Story** by accident Canadian children's writer Robert Munsch come to life.
Salle Epoque A young jazz drummer clashes with four adults in 1930s rural Spain.

BOOKS

On the Beach David and Cora in the Malheur Valley. Journalist Martin Walker & Pizzol. A veteran journalist visits skeletons in the closet of the former Tony Blair.
Karen Kalki *House of the Rising Sun* Karen Kalki with Stephen Gaskin and Pamela Rood. Don McLeod & Stewart. Canada's prime minister tells his story.
Settling the West David Gort. A book of culturalism in Canada. Neil Blomquist (Penguin). The newest challenge: that a fundamental plan in Canada's social policy is misguided.
Robertson David. *Man of Myth* Judith Skafe. Grand (Penguin). A biography of the anthropologist who wrote how new novel *The Coming Man* appears the month.
Headie's Tale Eric Wright. *Play Party*. The mystery novelist takes a detour into fiction.

AUDIO

Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man 1923-1934. Louis Armstrong (RCA). A four-disc set shows the musician's evolution from "Little Louis" to the incomparable "Satchmo."
Subliminal Simulations. *Drummers* (Warner). Is the world really ready for another release from pop's most invasive beats producer?
Sunshine (Vivienne). The first recording of Carole King's contemporary American folk songs.
The Glory of Gershwin. Various artists. PolyGram. Interpretations by Sting, Dion, Carlos and such unlikely choices as Cher and Meat Loaf.



A farewell to fowl

In 1964, an ancient conservationist named Jack Miner had what many of his contemporaries regarded as a rather eccentric idea: he set up one of the world's first bird sanctuaries to provide a haven for the Canada geese that migrate each spring and fall between the Arctic and the southern United States. Wild Goose Lake, as he became known, was ordered by the fact that his chosen location, on the Lake Erie shore about 40 km south of Windsor, was nowhere near any of the birds' nesting grounds. He purchased seven geese to act as decoys, clipped their wing feathers so they could not fly away, and waited for a storm to blow a flock of migrating geese off course. In 1968, it finally happened: 11 wild geese landed at the sanctuary and stayed up the shore for the night. The next year, 32 wild geese stopped in; the following year there were 400.

Today, more than 120,000 geese, following the so-called Tennessee flyway, land annually for a few days' rest at the Jack Miner Bird Sanctuary in Kingsville, Ont. And each year, about as many human guests visit

the sanctuary, which is supported by donations and by an endowment fund established before the conservationist's death in 1994. Cheryl Miner, who is married to Jack Miner's grandson, Kirk, said that visitors have come from as far afield as Pakistan, South Africa and Ukraine. The peak period for humans and geese alike is mid-October, when as many as 30,000 birds at a time crowd the 36-acre area.

There are plenty of other locations throughout Canada where it is possible to catch a glimpse of the majestic birds on their journey south. Many provincial parks and conservation areas accommodate visitors with educational programs, blinds and overlooks. But anyone who wants near one of the birds' major flyways—the Pacific, the Central, the Mississippi and the Atlantic, as well as the Tennessee, a narrow corridor stretching from Hudson's Bay in the southeastern United States—need only take the place for a glimpse of the geese flying in their famous V formation. Their sooty morphology is a sure sign that fall has arrived.

Backpack Information overload

It takes a full 40 minutes by Internet to receive an electronic copy of *War and Peace*, probably about the same time required to lug on a bus, visit the local library and sign out Tolstoy's rare award of Nupur's lifetime of Russia. It would take for less time simply to go to the livingroom and take the book off the shelf. And if the book has never been read, it is unlikely that having a computer version taking up a good chunk of hard-bail drive will make it seem any more accessible. The Internet, the much-bemoaned network of computer networks, is like that: It can put the world at your fingertips—whether the purpose is to read *War and Peace*, available through the electronic text archives of the Australian National University in Canberra, or to seek a beerhouse from Rutgers University in New Jersey. That these things can often be done

in other, less technological ways, at less cost and usually with less hassle, becomes apparent, overwhelmed by the digital wonder of it all. It is reminiscent of the early days of personal computers a decade ago, when amateur programmers would spend hundreds of hours creating fully colored computer images of their record collections, all to share a few seconds off the tape it would take to locate a favorite piece of music.

Despite that, the Internet has become the electronic *Wild West* of the 1990s. David Brodskan, marketing manager for HotSpot Communications, a Waterloo, Ont., company that sells Internet access, says that businesses are going online in increasing numbers, seeking a market to be tapped. Others, having heard of success about the information highway, are just curious. But the main reason for all the fuss is that the Internet is integrat-



ing, fascinating, interesting, addictive and challenging. Sometimes, it is even useful.

What the Internet is not is organized, easy to set up and easy to use. And while the network itself is free, it is still necessary to pay for a connection—available from scores of companies across the country for less than average about \$200 or \$300 a year for moderate use. Access is only truly free for those whose Internet accounts are paid by their employer or school.

Although the Internet is still not a place for the computer-dilettante, gone are the days when only those with a knowledge of arcane computer commands could use it. Many adult education programs, colleges and uni-

versities offer introductory courses, and Internet seminars sponsored by commercial firms abound. Promoters, the burgeoning community-oriented networks in a growing number of cities, view some limited access that can provide what amounts to an Internet test drive. While Internet still requires a reasonable amount of cyber-awake, it absolutely demands a fast modem. It was, after all, designed for people with terminals hooked to dedicated telephone lines, so signing on with a 2,400-bits-per-second modem, which two years ago would have been considered fast, is almost like driving an old Fiat German Trabant down the autobahn: perhaps not as dangerous, but every bit as slow.

All the publicity about the Internet has not made it any easier to discover. It is a place to message separately in a bewildering array of subjects, receive electronic mail, to stroll from people across seas, share research and ideas, obtain data from Statistics Canada,

access the catalogues of hundreds of libraries, download audio recordings of CBC Radio broadcasts, give free rein to the most bizarre fantasies and even build libraries of pornography. The Internet, in other words, can be almost anything its users wish it to be. "The Internet is not one thing," says Terry Kiang, an Ontario technology consultant and an Internet veteran of eight years.

The joy of exploration is what makes the network so much fun. Because the information is poorly organized, a search is akin to setting out across the Pacific on a raft. Sometimes you reach land, sometimes not. "It's a death snare," says Jim Carroll, co-author of Canada's Advent Handbook, a useful introduction for people interested in getting a connection. But to make it work as a research tool requires knowledge, skill and an iron discipline that will not be taught by a beguiling mass data that can throw a search wildly off course. "The biggest problem is imparting the useful advice from the useless waste," says Kevin Cookshaw, a Calgary software developer.

How much actual value the Internet delivers is an open question. A determined user

could, with some effort, download a list of hotels in Bucharest, Romania, but many travel agencies caution the same information is a more accessible place. People without computer skills who want an Internet account simply to help their kids with school projects

would probably be better off with a library card or an encyclopaedia. Kiang, a librarian by training, indicates the idea that the Internet can function as an international electronic library—"pure bunkum" in her words. "The Internet is to the status of library as the Internet is to the Library of Congress," she declares.

What the Internet does best, and without peer, is act as the world's newest and fastest postmaster, relaying messages and envelopes to the furthest of history. "Email mail just doesn't do it any more," says Carleton University psychology professor Tim Proff, who uses the Net to keep in touch with people he has met at conferences.

The Internet certainly has its shortcomings. Its peculiar, sometimes subliminal codes of behavior—particularly the anonymity displayed by some veterans towards new users—can be grating and invasive. The information snippets and dead ends can be frustrating. Merely that, though, the Net is never static, and never boring.

WARREN CARAGATA

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Kyran (left), Hampton
the plot of his Election,
set in a strip-tease club,
is a complete reversal

FILMS

A festival for fall

Toronto's film extravaganza offers foreign fare and a cast of Canadian eccentrics and outcasts

lanned with a splash-the askle image of a 300-MHz Mayday Chugley is a scumbagging into an sign-informed swimming pool overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Mayday Chugley is Chugley in a reclined position, looking at the camera with a look of disdain. The image is a black and white photograph of a man in a suit, sitting in a chair, looking at the camera. The image is a black and white photograph of a man in a suit, sitting in a chair, looking at the camera. The image is a black and white photograph of a man in a suit, sitting in a chair, looking at the camera.

Meanwhile, the festival serves as the country's most significant launchpad for new Canadian movies. This year, its program of some 21 homegrown features, including five documentaries. None of them really conforms to the Hollywood mould. Most are tales of outsiders, eccentrics and misfits—characters who have lost their way home and are grappling to find their bearings. That preoccupation is not new to Canadian cinema, but this year it tends to be infused with a new sense of humor and optimism. And the program embraces a wildly eclectic range of styles and voices. Some highlights

Whole Music is an off-kilter romantic comedy about two characters who rescue each other from emotional exile. Collaborating with director Lewis, Paul Quattrone adapted the drab script from his own novel, winner of the 1990 Governor General's Award. Desmond (Chaplin) is a blighted musician who lives like a hermit in a dilapidated

West Coast musician, a gently deflated soul who bears a certain resemblance to burnt-out Beach Boy Brian Wilson. Desmond has a selective grip on reality, and he is tormented

by visions of his dead brother. Feeding on a diet of stale doughnuts, he lives in his bathtub, obsessively recording a symphony for whistles while leading off acrobatic ventures from his cove (Jennifer Miles) and ex-manager (Kenneth Welsh). One day, a young runaway named Chae (Cindy Preston) shows up at his lair and comes in scented by her own family trauma, his grand uncle pins Desmond out of his shell and becomes his first mate.

Levin directs *White Noise*'s slight narrative in a low-key, straightforward manner. The novel's theme depends heavily on Chrysan who delivers an extraordinary performance: making a fictional character seem utterly real. The movie also compares up something that could only be imagined in the novel—Deusman's otherworldly music—seriously created by the Toronto-based band the Rheostatics.

Exotica is another drama about dissociation, a tale of a man who constructs a beautiful league during his life to deal with a family tragedy. But it has a much darker, more disturbing tone than *Black Moon*. Since its triumph at the Cannes festival in May where it won the International Critics Prize, Alain Resnais's sixth feature has proven to be his most accessible and successful film to date.

costumed as a schoolgirl, table-dancers for a tax auditor named Francis (Bruce Greenwood), who uses the ritual as therapy to help him exorcise the death of his murdered daughter.

Despite the movie's dangerously loaded subject matter, Egoyan scrupulously avoids exploitation. The strip club is a cold theme park of tropical decor—less exotic, in the end,

than the bizarre reality its role-playing designers have invented for themselves. Like the characters in Egoyan's previous films, they are suspended in a separate limbo between sexual longing and family love. The plot, a compulsive murder, seems more tightly wound than necessary. But, for an Egoyan film, *Arbitrage* becomes better than most; the acting is more intense, the design less claustrophobic, and the comic relief actually brings relief.

Dance Me Outside is the third feature from Toronto-based director Bruce McDonald, who once worked as an editor for *Twilight Zone*. There, then-McDonald had developed a new filmmaker style with such rock 'n' roll copagans as *Snuffbox* (1989) and *Subway* (1991). But McDonald's postmodernist movie choice is much less evident in *Dance Me Outside*, a comic drama based on the 1977 book of Italian stories by W.P. Kinsella set on the fictional Midwestern reserve, the story focuses on Silas (Ryan Reynolds), who is wishing away late adolescence at the end of the summer with his buddy Frank (Adam Beach). There is a sweet, comic domesticity, notably a slapstick coyness to get Silas's sister pregnant after her white yuppie husband has failed to do so.

Then, the narrative takes a serious turn as Miles nervously hatches a plot to avenge the killing of a native woman by a white man. As the drama accelerates to a dice conclusion, the stilt marks in the script are all too visible. Not, aided by fine performances from his native actors, McDonald creates an evocative portrait of life on the reserve. In fact, although he *Like Kasefelo* will no doubt be criticised for appropriating native voices, the movie's re-



Chaykin and
Fresher in White
House; Kirsner in
Duckin' Inbreeds
serves about 200
with plenty of
cups of relief

five characters seem less stereotypical than the whites.

Wendigo denounces racism, anger as a more colorful feature. Montreal writer-director Robert Morin (who acts as Wendigo's narrator in which a small but well-served native band declares independence in northern Quebec). A cynical TV journalist and three goldfishes travel together on a raft bucket named The Pickle to negotiate with the band. The movie sets out with great satirical promise, but the director's political and ethnic gets the better of him. And as Wendigo's voyage becomes weighed down by allusions to both Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* and Francis Coppola's *Apocalypse Now*, the narrative runs amok.

A **Wind from Wyoming** offers more evidence that Quebec filmmakers seem to be pursuing a wider, less regional sensibility than their Bagby-Canadian counterparts. With his seventh feature, director Josée Forestier weaves a wonderfully surreal comedy about sex,



Work and Brood in Dances Me
Outside: Gling and Gling in *Double Happiness* (below); Dan performances

is strongly credible as a scrappy on-budget with a wooden leg. And director David Cronenberg makes a cameo house call to the role of a doctor.

Man, a contemporary tale of a problem child, is less successful. R. W. Thomson and Deane Croody play Andy and Jayne, Vancouver parents with high-pressure jobs who discover that their young son, Man, has a rare and fatal immune disorder. Convinced that their consumer lifestyle is to blame, Andy uproots his wife and two children and moves them to a ramshackle farmhouse. With his back-to-the-land fantasies, he endangers his family and drives away his wife. But writer-director Charles Williams vindicates Thompson's character with a redemptive ending that is both redolent and amusing.

Double Happiness is another first feature from British Columbia, but of a brighter sort. Vancouver-based filmmaker Mao Shuan has written and directed a funny, affecting drama about the generation gap in a Chinese-Canadian family. Jade Li (Sandra Oh) is a 22-year-old movie actress who lives a double life. At home, she remains devoted to her loving mother (Alfreda Qiao) and strict father (Charles Gling), who keep trying to match her up with Chinese lawyers. But outside the house, Jade dons a leather jacket, frequents nightclubs and falls for a white student. As her father becomes apologetic, she has to choose between her heritage and her future.

The script has its rough spots, and some of the acting is uneven. But there is an engaging sincerity here to Shuan's images and a knowing subtlety to her semi-sentimental

Characters grappling to find their bearings are not new but the humor and sense of optimism are

passion, beauty and mysticism. The story involves an abnormally fractured family. The youngest daughter, Lisa (Sarah-Jeanne McKay), plays after a stoned New Age boxer who swims at her father's gym. The boxer has left her for her mother. Lisa's sister is isolated with a wheelchair-bound, but Lisa goes to him first, something that in a boxing ring. Meanwhile, a cabinet hysteric (Marc Messier) goes his powers to entangle the Lisa even further.

With a spirit worthy of surrealism pioneer Luis Buñuel, Forestier presents one outrageous scene after another. Lisa, under an ungrateful, controlling her sister boyfriend in the shower at the gym, becomes seriously desecrating in the ring in a collage with, soldiers, cheap games for men on the side of the highway.

Heavy & Verbs is Depressions drama set in rural Ontario, offers a much more conventional take on adolescence and family chaos. Naive actor Gary Farmer crinkles a wire-nagging presence as Henry, a 25-year-old father who befriends his brother's nine-year-old autistic son, Verbs (Kieran Macdonald). Henry is a clumsy but well-meaning middle-aged whose devotion to Verbs begins to strain the boy's mother (Nancy Betty). Although Verbs's father (Robert Joy) remains tolerant, there is mounting pressure



sure to commit Henry to the local asylum. A first feature by Ontario filmmaker Gary Leitcher, **Heavy & Verbs** is based on stories by his late father, English professor Kim Leitcher. The director has created a handsome, if innocuous genre film injecting magic into a sweet but precise script. Future guru Murray Close is a run for his money with his performance as an ornamental and Margot Kidder

HE RAISED THE BAR FOR OTHER SKATERS. AND JUMPED OVER IT.



Philippe Candiano

Serge Brandy

ELVIS AND FRIENDS

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FILMS

story. At its center is another actor who—like Chaykin and Turner—delivers a performance that transcends the movie. Oh, who won acclaim for starring as a teenage prostitute in the CBC's *The Diary of Evelyn Low*, shows once again that she is an exceptional talent. Bringing delightful nuance to every scene, she is a towering presence.

Wings is a modest but beguiling blend of quirky drama, innuendo and performance art. Directed by Toronto's Judith Dyer, it unfolds as the diary of Rebecca (Louise Laker), who travels to Wausau Beach, the

back-to-back arcade on Georgian Bay to make a video. She takes driving lessons from a lesbian instructor (Tracy Wright) and encounters various roommates, including an antique dealer played by a mercurial Daniel Mays. The camera tracks her wanderings with a loopy, surrealistic rhythm.

Pictures Tight goes further still, even as any of the Canadian films, or perhaps any film in the festival. Ostensibly, Peter Mettler's film is a documentary expedition to film the northern lights in Churchill, Man. But it has the same five-minute and esthetic brilliance of a great drama. Hypnotic displays of the aurora borealis, captured in time-lapse photography, are the gold at the end of Mettler's rainbow, but getting there is more than half the fun. The camera's dolom on abstraction—endless swarms of blowing snow, the curving spine of a snowdrift. The film is an emotional roller-

ture on heat and space and cold understood by an absolute wit. During a blizzard, a motel owner allows the filmgoers to live a hellish through the wall to see how long it will take for snow blowing through the hole to create a drift at the door. With *Pleasure of Light*, Moxley goes to a world where cameras freeze and time to film nothingness, subdues patterns of heat and sky. He achieves amazing results in the context of Canadian cinema, where characters often live in uneasy tension with their environment, for once there is no contest: the weather is the hero.

Pointe Claire, a satire by Halifax director Paul Doucette, posits the introduction of Canadian moovers to preserve extinctions. Based on Doucette's novel, it is a comedy of errors about a Toronto bureaucrat named Wick Burn (Kris Lawler) who works in the upper echelons of the Film Financing Agency of Canada—a fictional version of Telefilm. The movie's script has some funny moments, but the style itself is surprisingly lame, and the best sequence barely holds together.

At the Toronto festival, even marginal Canadian movies are a hot ticket, but when the same film opens commercially, most die quickly at the box office. Considering the chronic obscurity at Canadian film, the idea that people will flock to a movie about Canadian film is raising serious doubts indeed. But amid the hype and frenzy of a film festival, there is at least room to dream. □

More hot tickets

So many films, so little time. With a roster of 208 directors, moviegoers who flock to the Toronto International Film Festival are always looking for just new discoveries, for the movies that are smart, sexy, raucous or subversive. A brief list of the

Once Were Warriors, a raw New Zealand drama about domestic violence in a Maori family, has obvious appeal after sweeping the top prizes at the Montreal World Film Festival last November in unveiling another New Zealand eye-opener, *Heavenly Creatures*, about the shocking, psychological fantasy life of two teenage girls. *Damn Underdogs* comes mid-duty again in Geoffrey Wright's *Metal Skin*, a tough-guy tale through the streets of Melbourne.

Midnight Dancers dramatizes the world of gay prostitutes in Manhattan. And *Captives*, a



**Scene from *Warriors*,
Robbins, Princeton in
*The Snowshoe***



starry first feature by British director Angela Pope, rediscovers the roles of ill-fated men with Tim Roth playing a convict who has an affair with the prison's female dentist. In a more traditional vein, Bollywood presents *The Shawshank Redemption*, a wonderfully rich, old-fashioned prison movie starring Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman as opposite inmates.

A long list of directors, including Shostakovich's Frank Darabont, are making impressive feature debuts. Benoit's Michael Winterbottom directs **Family**, a gritty, working-class drama scripted by Irish author Roddy Doyle (*The Commitments*). Priest, by English new-wave Antonio

Third, is a provocative treatment of incest and homosexuality in the clunky American George Hwang's *Twelve Men in the Backyard*, a raucous comedy about Hollywood sharks. And James Gray, a 24-year-old New Yorker, directs *Tim Roth*, *Maximilian Schell* and *Vanessa Redgrave* in *Linde Odessa*, a moody drama about a bit man in Brooklyn's Russian community.

There is also new work by established directors, from the psychological horror of *Hell (Gino's Claude Chabrol)* to the inspired whodney of *Deux Dames (Bibi's Maura Maury)*. Vintage Maastricht comes about as close as Woody Allen's shrew-psychological comedy *Wings Over Broadway*, and in Alan Rudolph's devious Mrs. Parker and the Vicious Circle. Only American director Hal Hartley recruits French actress Isabel Huppert to play a murdered photographer in *Amateur and Britain's*

A paean of films offers rare glimpses of political and cultural upheaval. The *Two of Us* by *Hauser* and *Serkis* undergoes a sea-change operation in *Solovov* Russia. In *From the Sun*, from Russian director *Nikolai Mikhailov*, *Solovov* storm clouds loom as an idyllic dacha in the 1930s. The festival programme includes a series of *Mikhailov* films, including *Ames* 6-18, a home movie about the director's daughter that is widely illegal during the turbulent years of the Soviet Union. *Andrei Wajda* creates a House international conflict with *Nostalgia*—a Japanese movie by a Polish director based on a Russian novel, *Dostoevsky*.

A festival spotlight on India's prolific movie industry presents 20 features, notably Mani Ratnam's reflecting experience, *Tel Thel*. From Hong Kong, meanwhile, the festival arrives two remarkable new features from veteran director Wong Kar-wai, *As Tears Go By* and *Chungking Express*. And, for those paled by so much variety, there is always *Delhiwale*. *Delhiwale*—an Indian combatant about a cemetery caretaker who feels less true love among the living dead.



PEOPLE

DOUBLE DALE-ING

This TV season, *Cyranose* can look forward to a double hit of *Dale-Gennifer* and *Cyranose*, that is—on two new shows. Jennifer, 38, who recently returned to hometown Toronto from Backport, where she was filming the *Hatfield* Romance movie *Broken Lady*, will star in *Family Passion*, a new soap opera that debuted earlier this month on the 100 network. Best known for her movie work (*The Adventurer*, *White House*), Dale acknowledges that the daily grind of videotaping a soap is a change of pace. "But I have come to realize how rewarding and challenging a job it is," she adds. "My kids even help me organize my hair. It does become a real family thing."

Speaking of family, Cyranose signed on last week to her first major TV role since the luxury exodus of the CBC series *Street Legal* in which she appeared for six seasons. In *Taking the Fifth*, an Alliance Communications production that begins filming next month, the actress, 34, will play a misanthropic private detective who teams up with a stigmatized woman lawyer in Niagara Falls. Dale says that she and the producers had discussed the possibility of her playing the lawyer—again—"but I don't want to play another lawyer. Been there, done that, got the T-shirt." As for dates for the series has only yet been determined, but it could well show up on CTV as a weekend replacement. And if that happens, Cyranose jokes, "we'll have a busy January in the old family compound."



Jennifer: switch to soaps

Cyranose: enough lawyers

NUDITY ROYALE

Fans the paparazzi turned their long prying lenses on a pregnant Diana Princess of Wales in a bathing suit. Much later, they snapped a svelte Fergie, Duchess of York. And now they have captured Prince Charles in a group color photo-graph that has heated up the ongoing battle between the privacy-seeking British Royal Family and the sensation-seeking European press. First published last week in Germany's tabloid Bild, the photo portrays a lean and scrawny Prince Charles naked but for a bathrobe sling



Charles: "Good things" about Canada



The photo: artistic, or an intrusion?

across his right shoulder and dangling down to cover his groin—just. A Buckingham Palace spokesman called the photo, taken while Charles was vacationing in France, a "completely unjustifiable" intrusion. But B&B defended its decision to run the photo on artistic grounds. The prince's body, according to B&B, is "truly... not a Greek statue."

LIVE, FROM RUSSIA—WITH FANS

It was a coup for the National Ballet of Canada. Last month, Ukrainian-born Vladimir Malakhov, hailed by European critics during his two years with the Vienna State Opera Ballet, joined the Toronto-based National as a new principal dancer. "I heard so many good things about the company," says Malakhov who was formerly a principal dancer with the Moscow Classical Ballet. And Canada, he says, is just what he was looking for. "I'd been in Russia. I would never dance for a *Mexican* or a *French*—all these famous choreographers," says the 25-year-old. "For this, you need to pay a lot of

money." That, he adds, is something Western ballet companies have, at least compared to those in the cash-strapped former Soviet Union. Malakhov, who will make his Canadian debut in November in *Swan Lake*, they contribute more than grace and aquatic leaps. For the show, a few friends—100 or 200 at dawn—will likely crowd in Toronto from Russia where he has lived 22 times since 1981. "I have a big fan club there," he adds. "My Japanese friends go everywhere where I'm dancing." An audience to go

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Telling a great Canadian fish tale

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

Michael Wilson, who looks like Hollywood actor Randolph Scott but has the mind of a disoriented accountant, once said that the trouble with Canada was that it "didn't have enough millionaire." (Yes, in the main, of course, who as finance minister from 1984 to 1989) supervised the accumulation of more public debt than all his previous predecessors combined.

One might suggest that what Canada needs, more than more millionaires, is more Pamela McCall.

Pamela McCall is 35. She has supported herself since she was 17. A native of Vancouver, she spent several years at Montreal's National Theatre School. She has run a business managing art to corporate clients.

She is building a house, her future bed-and-breakfast, just at Roberts Creek, which is on the Sunshine Coast north of Vancouver, up where Brian Grouse used to coast in the Beachcomber. She is noted in her endpapers by the frequent presence of her six (or would it be seven) blood test daughters, whose 19th never stop, who are in French immersion school and who are named Michael Taylor. I tell her they sound like a department store.

She found she needed \$20,000 to finish the house. She decided to get into a book. She entered, in a West Vancouver gallery, an octet of salmon scenes painted by B.C. artist Salomon, needless to say, is the fish of B.C., for centuries the source of survival of the native Indians, a lure for anglers around the world. Why not a salmon cookbook?

She went to a local library and found there were salmon cookbooks from Alaska, from Oregon, from California, from Washington state. None a one from British Columbia, the coast famous salmon lands of fish. She found there are 675 000 fishing licenses issued annually in the province. "Blimey!" she says. "World Michael Wilson here thought of that!"

Pamela McCall, who didn't have a clue how to put out a book, went to Vancouver Publishing, a very successful B.C. publisher. She was told to go easy. She asked around. Printers



and publishers told her the same thing: look, you've never done a book before so you don't know how to do a book. Catch 22.

Frantically, she found a book published in the 1950s by an American, one Salomon Lewis, titled *The Trout And Publishing*. It told the simple business of all the basics. In fact, it was written for Pamela McCall: the publisher's son who was his publisher is now up.

She discovered 70 per cent of local books were published offshore. She tracked down, to Vancouver's Chinatown, a tiny elderly publisher named by Peter Sig. He told her, what is one else would, have a book in production starting with a demonstration of how you fold sheets of paper in half, square it.

She had to pay \$10,000 for a designer to lay out the book. She had to be taught, looking at color chips, how the book would look. She assigned some of the royalties to Bruce Blair, Artist of the Year in 1994 for both the B.C.

Wildlife Protection and Trout Unlimited, for permission to use some his beautiful paintings of the wonderful fish in its natural habitat. She incorporated herself in a new-wave publishing house, Terra Bella Publishers-Canada. She had a very bright friend do the editing. And shipped the whole thing off to Hong Kong for printing.

It was in the 1930s that the Hudson's Bay Company began exporting salmon to the world. Twenty years later, the first cannery opened and a fishing industry was under way. Last year, 30 million salmon were caught by 18 C. commercial fisheries, 70 per cent shipped to 34 countries. On July 5, the centenary prize of 5,000 copies arrived in Vancouver: *British Columbia Salmon: A Collection of Paintings and Cookery* (\$21.95). Just in time for a gathering of the B.C. Salmon Marketing Council. The nervous newly united publisher sold 86 books in two hours.

Whoo! Maybe she had underestimated the market.

The introduction is by Alan Hargrave, son of the famed Campbell River writer, angler and fisherman, "Salmon is the food of our province and just as visitors have always known of their ways, the salubrious of each variety are added and enhanced by the location in which they are grown and the company in which they are consumed. Good lives have been spent sampling the familiar and searching for the extraordinary in both salmon and water."

Next month, 500,000 tourists from around the globe will be at the Adams River in which the end of the millennium has your eye. It's the salmon festival, which will fight there with 200 miles from the Pacific to the raging Fraser River to their death, lying there again for the next cycle, on the Chilcotin plains in central B.C. Pamela McCall and her book will have a bookish theme.

Geza Duffell, boss of the best bookstore anywhere, has put the book on her shelves in the B.C. ferries, which carry 10 million passengers a year. Don Petty, for her TV show is flying the hot new publisher in Toronto, looking for other authors to bring all her fish and seafood and recipes with her: "I'm going to go to the Royal York," says the star guest, "and order up the biggest room service you've ever seen."

As the cooks, 6000 more copies are on the way from Hargrave. Just an international restaurant are some are there laid out, up the coast, at 25,000 a day in search of the mighty Tyee, king of all salmon.

What's next for the one-book publisher? A book on opera. She's not a salishian. Mike but she's what builds a country.



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